

Studies in the Residential
Architecture
of Late Roman
Thessalonica and its Vicinity

Volume II

Figures | Appendix | Bibliography

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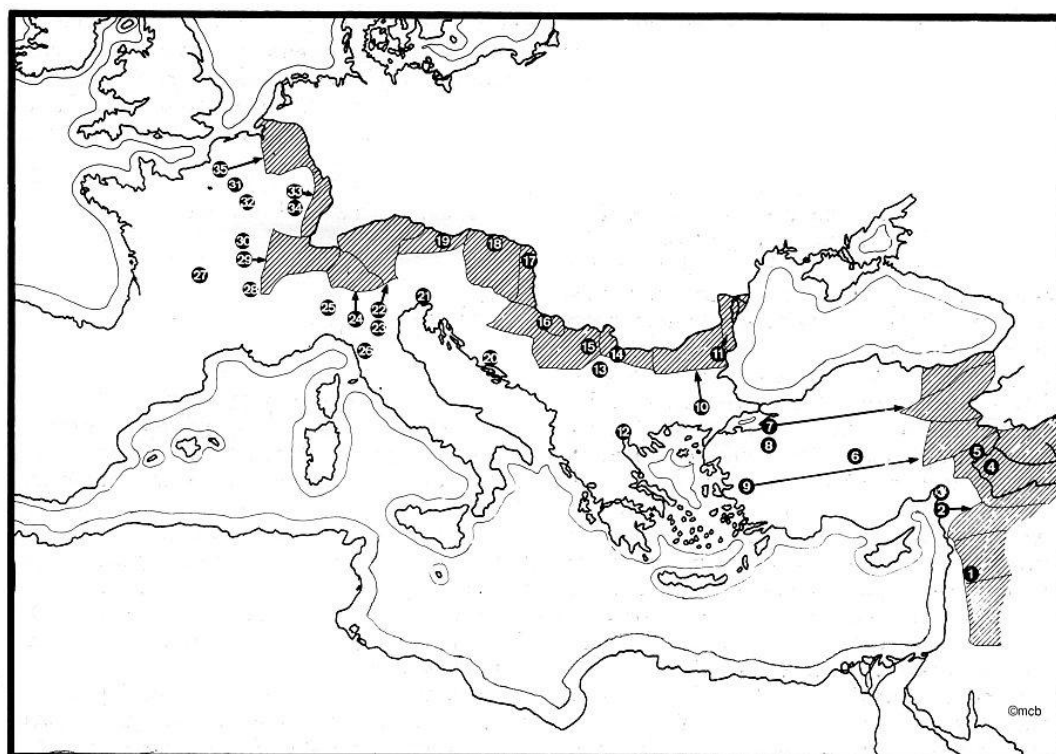
[all figures refer to Thessalonica unless otherwise stated]



Fig.1. Map of the via Egnatia.



Fig.2. Map of the Prefecture of Illyricum.



<i>Oriens</i>		<i>Occidens</i>	
1	Damascus	16	Sirmium
2	Antiochia		<i>scutorum, scordisorum et armorum</i>
3	Antiochia	17	Aquincum
4	Edessa		<i>scutaria</i>
5	Irenopolis	18	Carnuntum
6	Caesarea		<i>scutaria</i>
7	Nicomedia	19	Lauriacum
8	Nicomedia		<i>scutaria</i>
9	Sardis	20	Salona
10	Hadrianopolis		<i>armorum</i>
11	Marcianopolis	21	Concordia
12	Thessalonice		<i>scutaria</i>
13	Naissus	22	Verona
14	Ratiaria		<i>scutaria et armorum</i>
15	Horreum Margi	23	Mantua
			<i>loricaria</i>
		24	Cremona
			<i>scutaria</i>
		25	Ticinum
			<i>arcuaria</i>
		26	Luca
			<i>spatharia</i>
		27	Argentorate
			<i>armorum omnium</i>
		28	Matisco
			<i>sagittaria</i>
		29	Augustodunum
			<i>loricaria, ballistaria et clibanaria</i>
		30	Augustodunum
			<i>scutaria</i>
		31	Suessiones
			<i>?</i>
		32	Remi
			<i>spatharia</i>
		33	Treberi
			<i>scutaria</i>
		34	Treberi
			<i>ballistaria</i>
		35	Ambianum
			<i>spatharia et scutaria</i>

Fig.3. Integrated list of *fabricae* and their geographical location according to the *Notitia Dignitatum*.

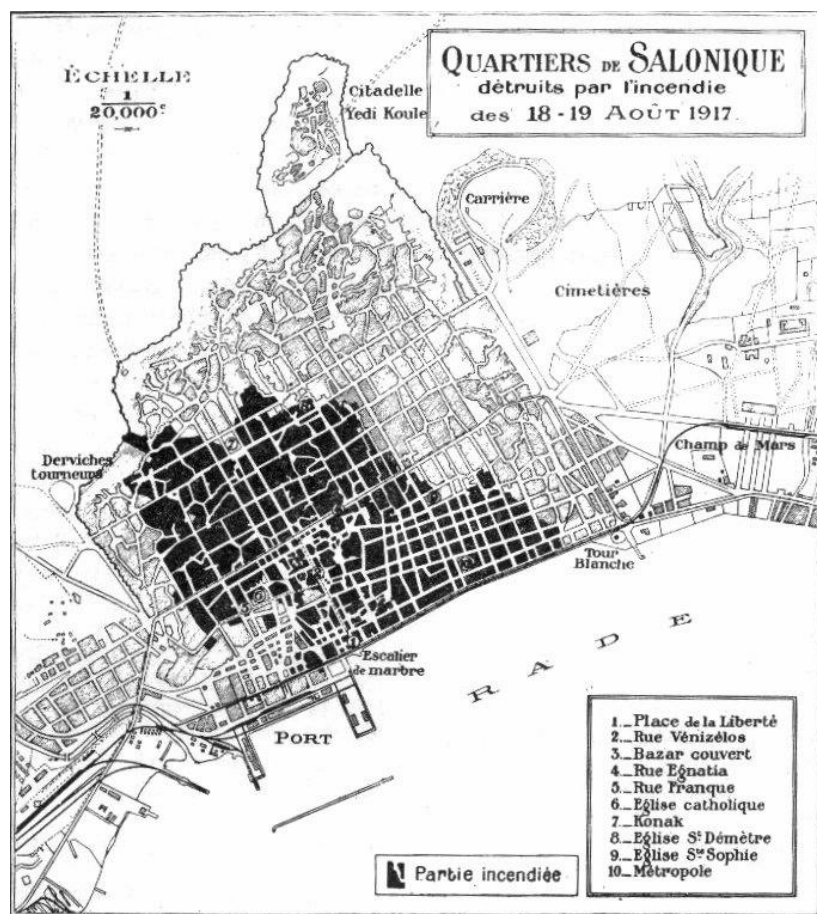


Fig.4. Map showing the part of Thessalonica destroyed by the Great Fire of 1917.

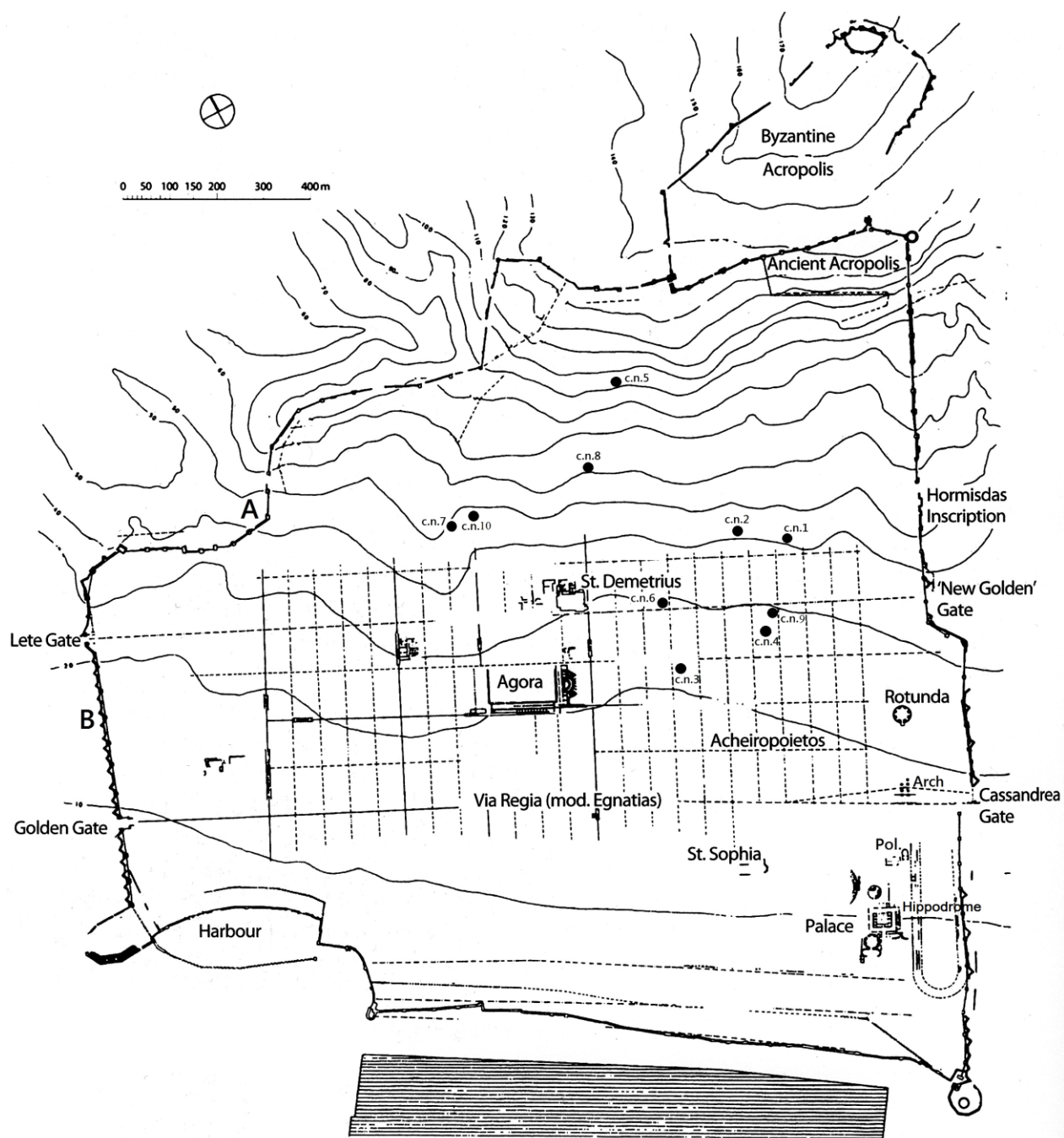


Fig.5. Plan of Thessalonica showing the surviving circuit of the city walls and other excavated sites. Residences referred to in this study are indicated by their catalogue numbers and the locations of city wall examples by letters.

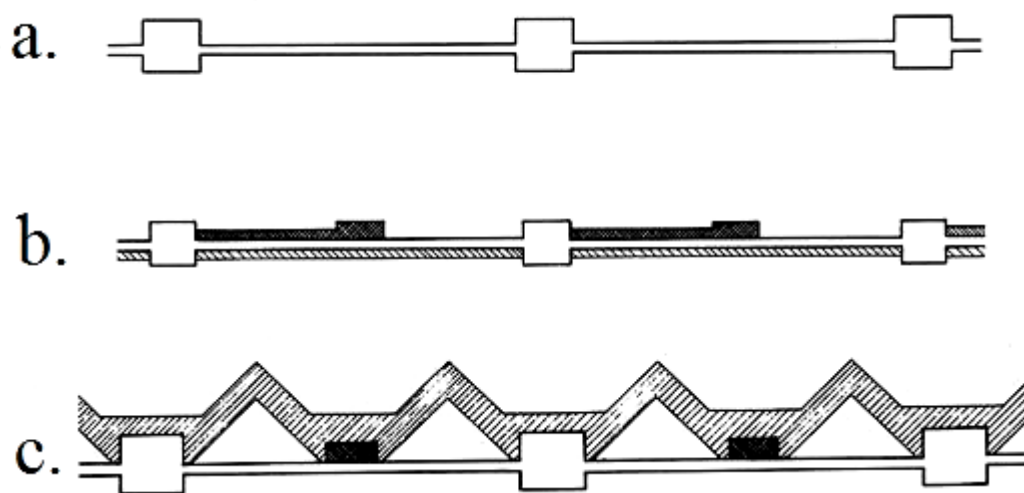


Fig.6. City Wall: Phases in construction: a). AD 250s; b). between Galerius and Julian the Apostate (363), outer phase is shown at top; c). Theodosius I (379-395) or Theodosius II (401-450).

FIFTH-CENTURY BRICKSTAMPS FROM THESSALONIKI

TABLE I. RELATIVE OCCURRENCE OF TYPES AND THEIR SUBDIVISIONS

Type	ACH	ROT	DEM	SOPH	WALL	ELIAS
IA, 1	1-5	1	1-3	1	1-5	1
IA, 2	6-7	2-3				
3		4-6				
4	8	7-13			6	
5		14	4-7	2		
6		15	8			
B, 1	10-11					
2			9			
3						
C, 1	12					
D, 1	13					
2	14-15					
E, 1	16					
F	17-18					
IIA	19-21	16				
B	22					
III	23				7-8	
IV	24		10		9	
?V			11		10	
?VI	24-5				11	

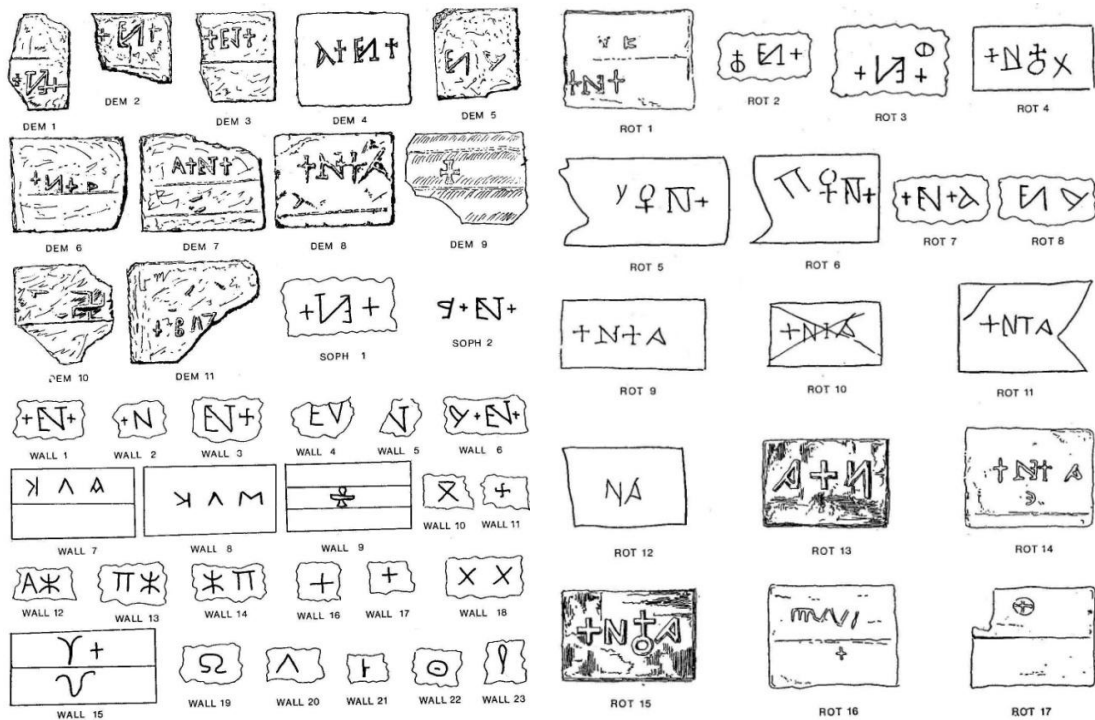
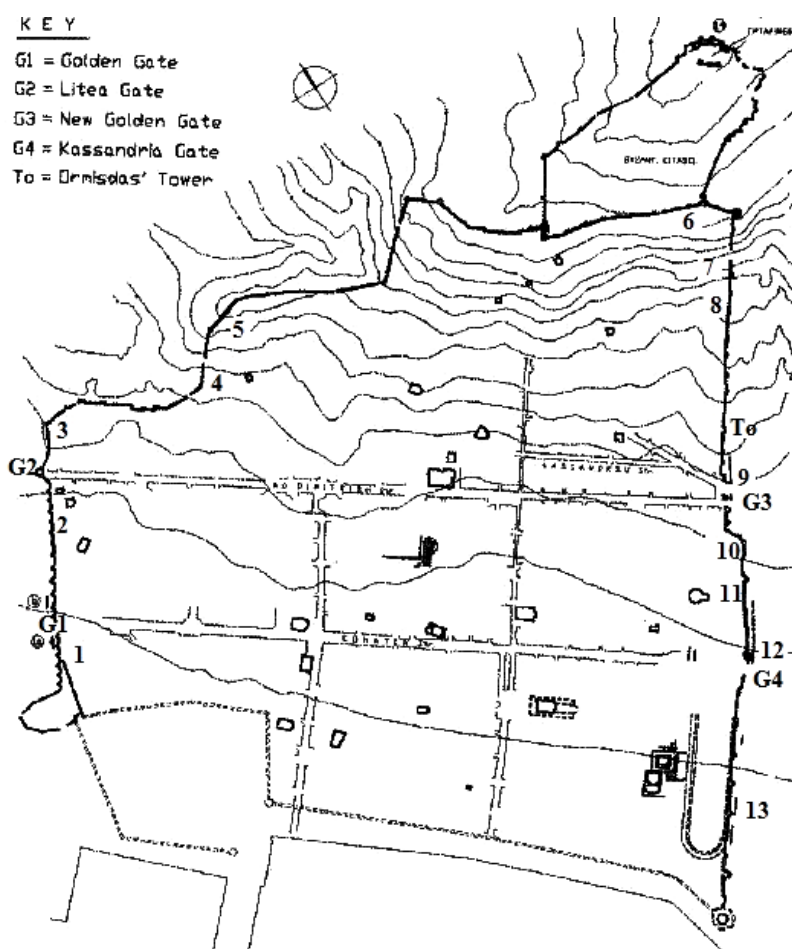


Fig.7. Brickstamps and table of types with subdivisions.



Site	Main wall	Outer wall
1	26 samples with ΘE (alone or with cross), I with elongated horizontal bars / 10 samples with Θ, Ω and Π with a subscript κ	Large number of samples with ENT or EN accompanied by crosses and/or letters A and I
2	E and C rotated by 90 degrees, Z, X with an additional bar in the middle and crosses	
3	KΛA and KAM (K reversed), B, rectilinear C, I with elongated bars and X with a bar in the middle	
4	13 samples with a Z alone or with an A underneath, cross or other symbol / 5 samples with a C and double N	
5	Few samples with an I and elongated bars and X with a middle bar	
6	Few samples with E and B	
7	B alone or accompanied with a cross, samples with an A alone or with cross reversed S alone or with cross	
8		
9		
10	Z with an A underneath (like site 4), rectilinear C (like site 3), X with a middle bar (like sites 2-3) and A (like site 7)	
11	Few examples with crosses (section survives to a minimal height) and samples from tower of site 11 bearing letters A and Π accompanied by other symbols.	
12		2 samples with ENT
13		ENT or EN preceded and followed by a cross and accompanied by another letter such as B, S, Θ, I

Fig.8. City Wall: Findspots of brick stamps and summary table of all brick stamp samples found.

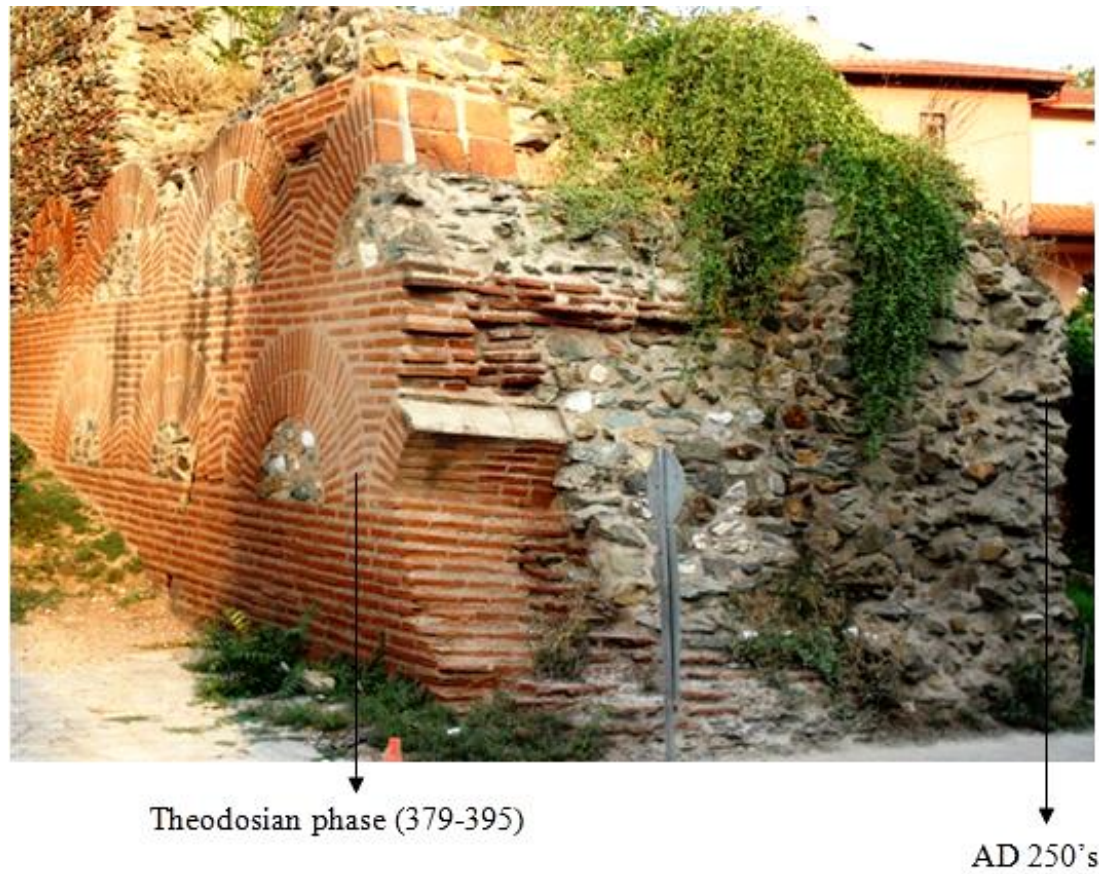


Fig.9. City Wall: Northwest stretch at Archaeotiton St., exposed in cross section, from southeast. Location indicated as A in map of fig.5.



Fig.10. City Wall: Northwest stretch at Archaeotiton St. (different angle of the same part of the northwest wall as shown in fig.9), from southwest. Scale in foreground=1m. Location indicated as **A** in map of fig.5.



Fig.11. City Wall: Southeast stretch at Elenis Zografou St.



Fig.12. City Wall: Northwest stretch at Archaeotiton St. Different angle of the same part of the northwest wall (as shown in fig.9). Scale in foreground= 1m. Location indicated as A in map of fig.5.



Fig.13. City Wall: Northwest stretch at Stournara St., inside face exposed in section. Scale in foreground= 1m.



Fig.14. City Wall: Western stretch (**B** on map fig.5).



Fig.15. City wall: Inscription of Hormisdas.



Fig.16. Arch of Galerius and Rotunda, from south.



Fig.17. Arch of Galerius, from northeast.

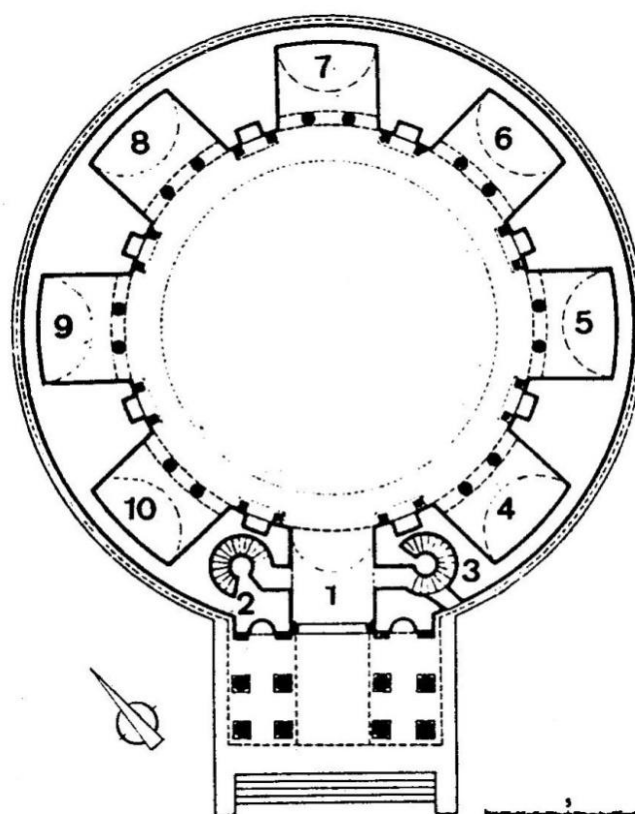


Fig.18. Rotunda, ground plan.

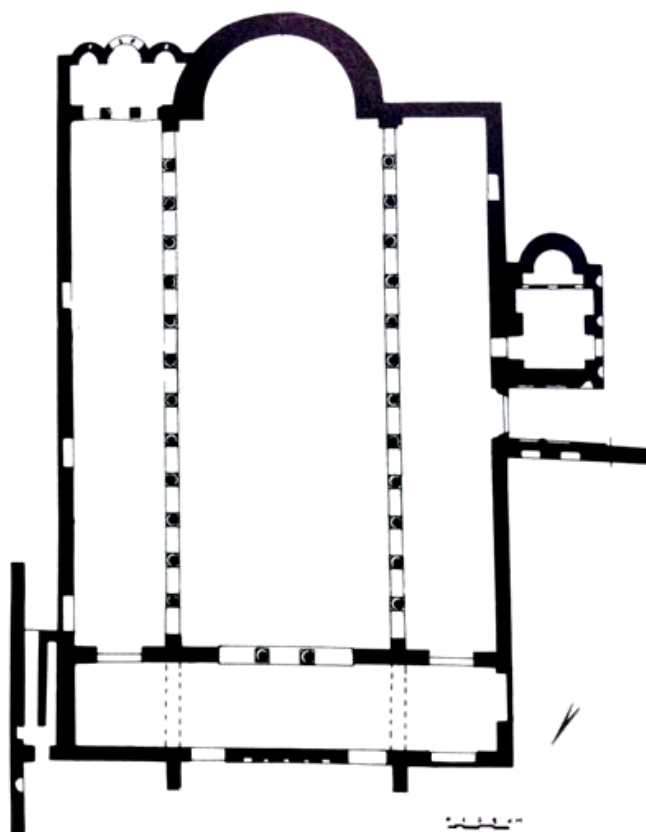


Fig.19. Acheiropoietos, ground plan.



Fig.20. Acheiropoietos, northeast wall.



Fig.21. Acheiropoietos, Theodosian column capital, now at the Museum of Byzantine Culture, Thessalonica.

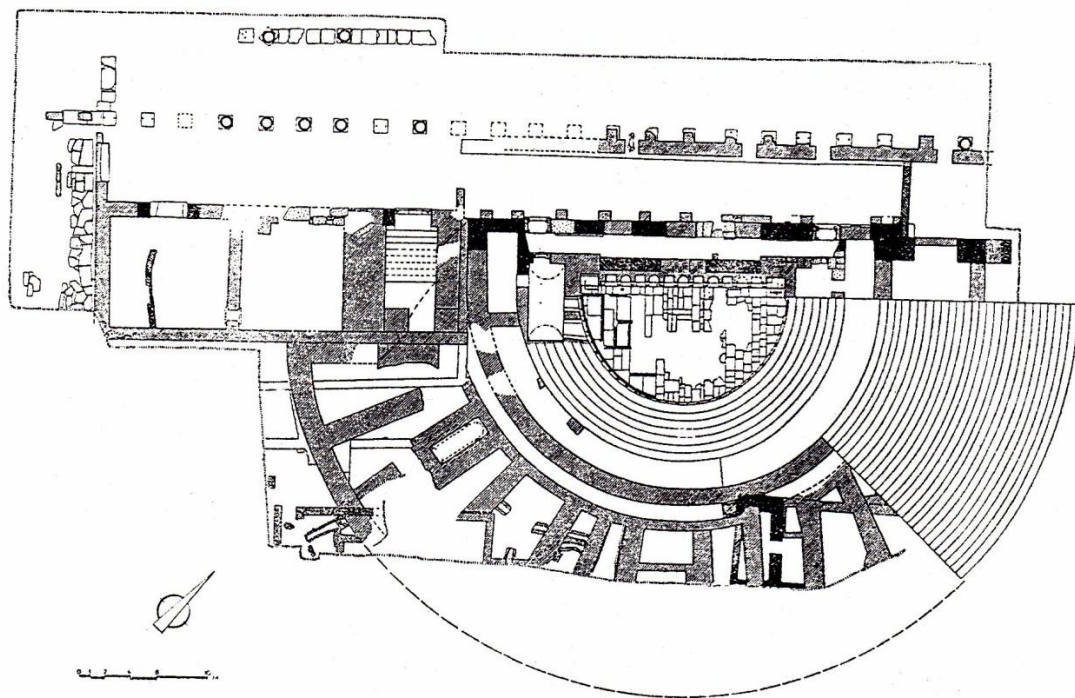


Fig.22. *Odeion*, general site plan.

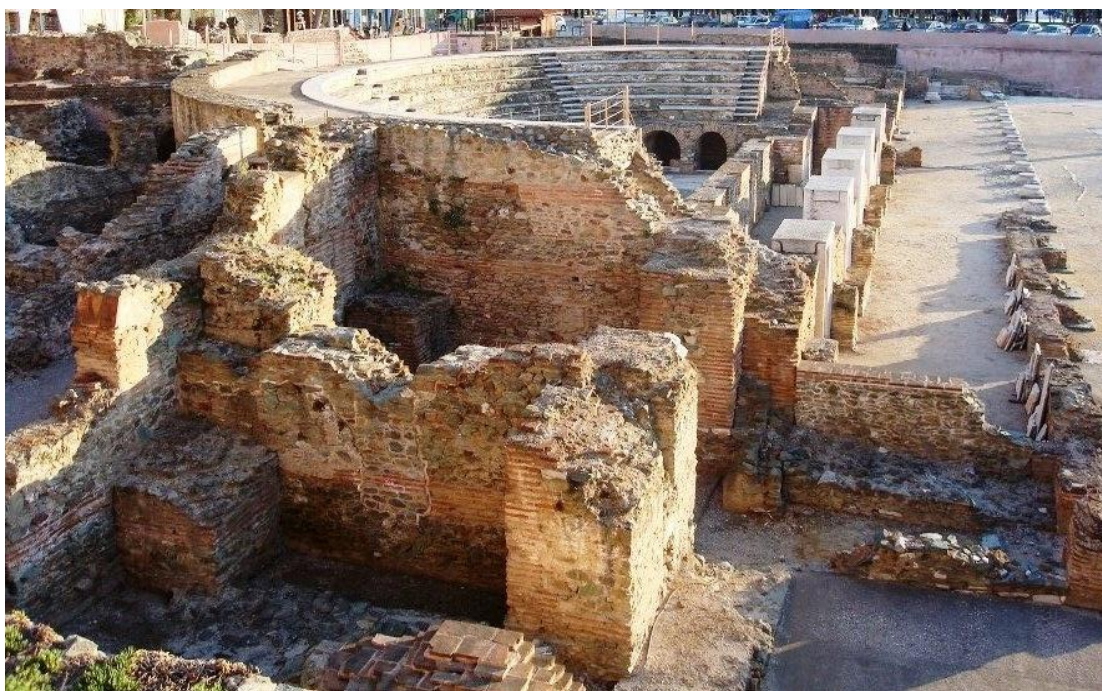


Fig.23. *Odeion*, general view from northeast.

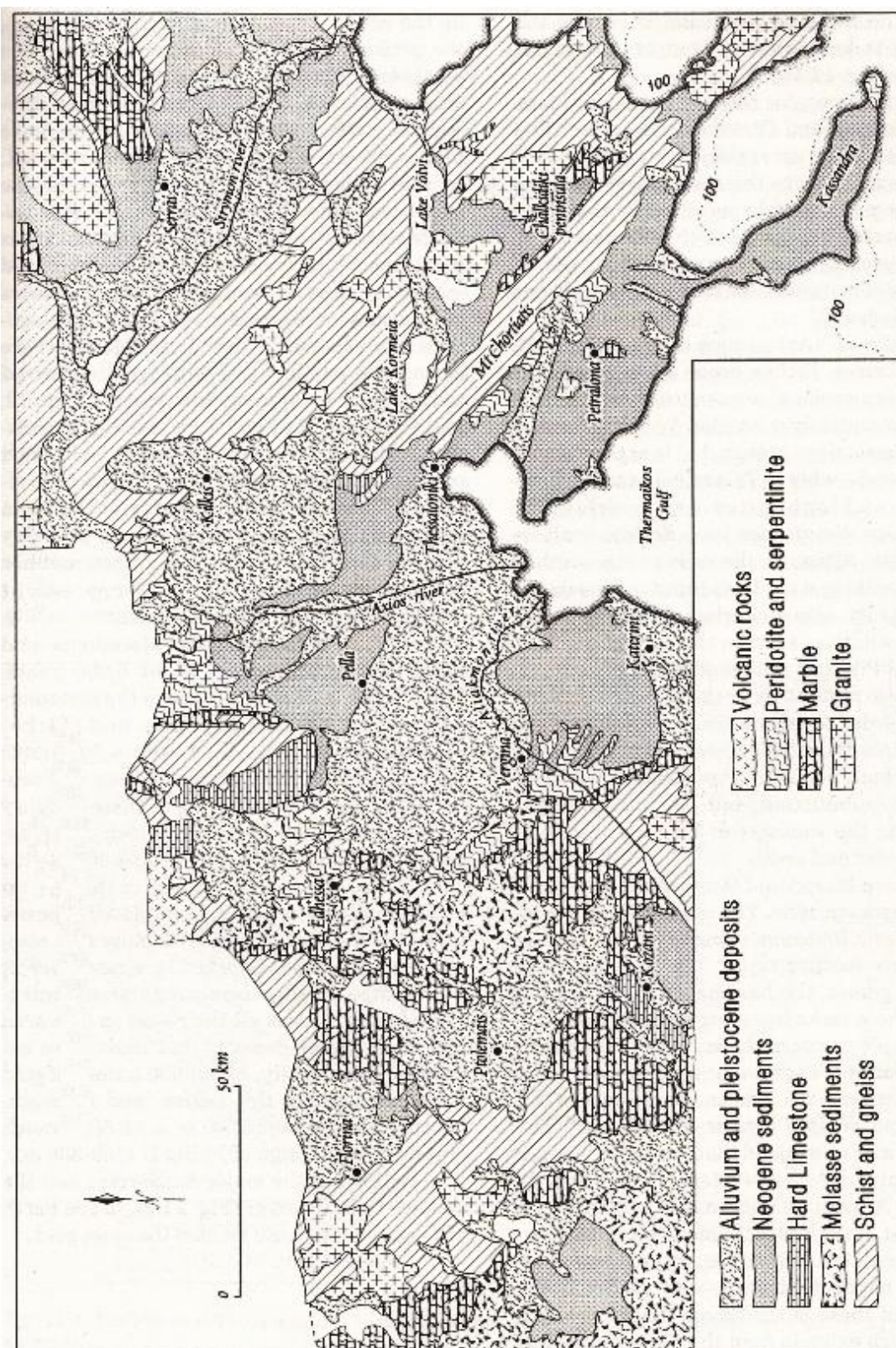


Fig.24. Geological map of Northern Greece.



Figs 25-6. *Opus mixtum* technique as found in Northern Peristyle of the 'Palace of Galerius'.

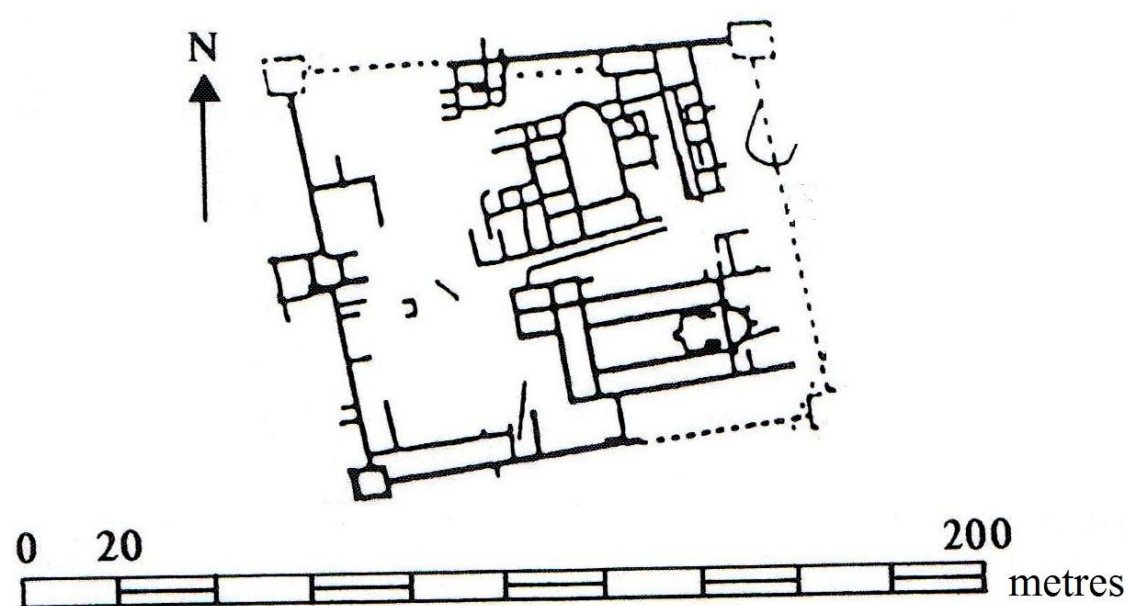


Fig.27. Louloudies: Fortified *episkopeion*, site plan.

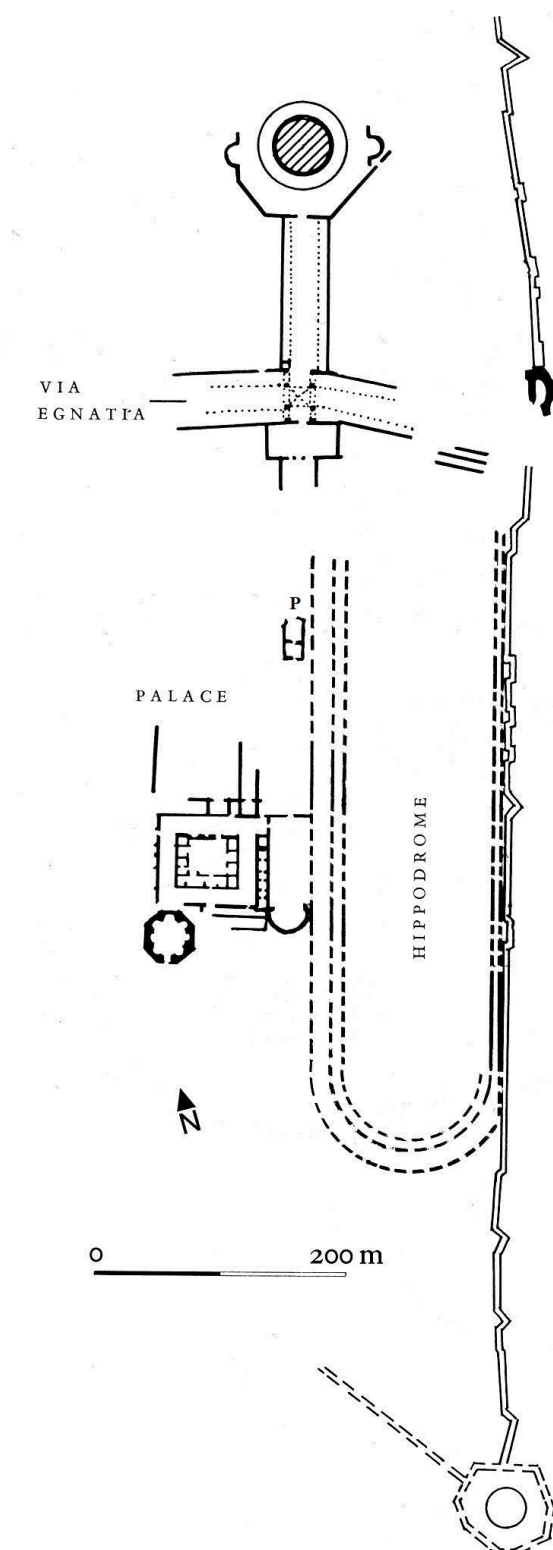


Fig.28. 'Palace of Galerius': General site plan with 'P' added to indicate the Polygonal building on Gounari Street.

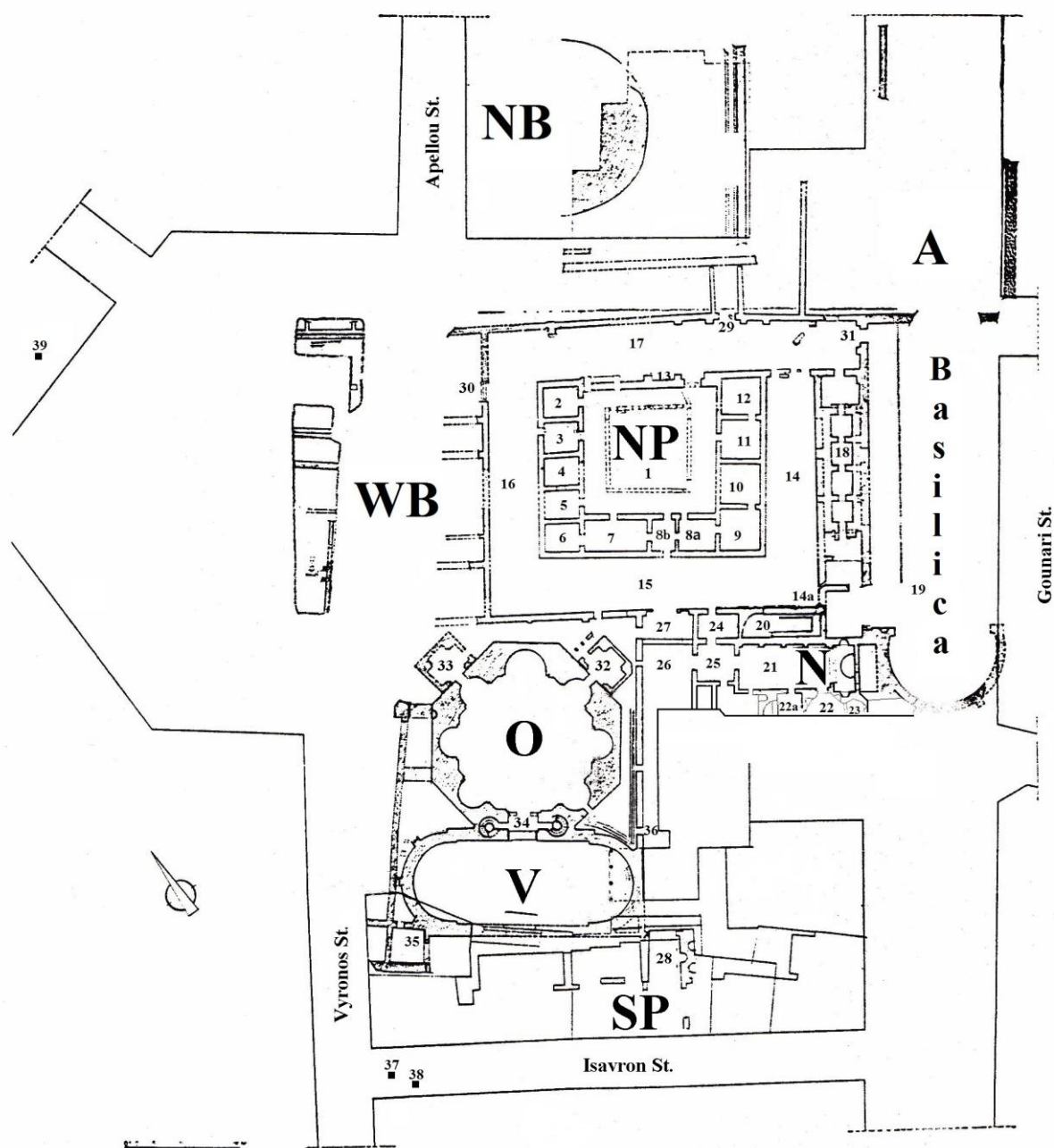


Fig.29. 'Palace of Galerius' at Navarinou Square: General site plan with added lettering and numbering.

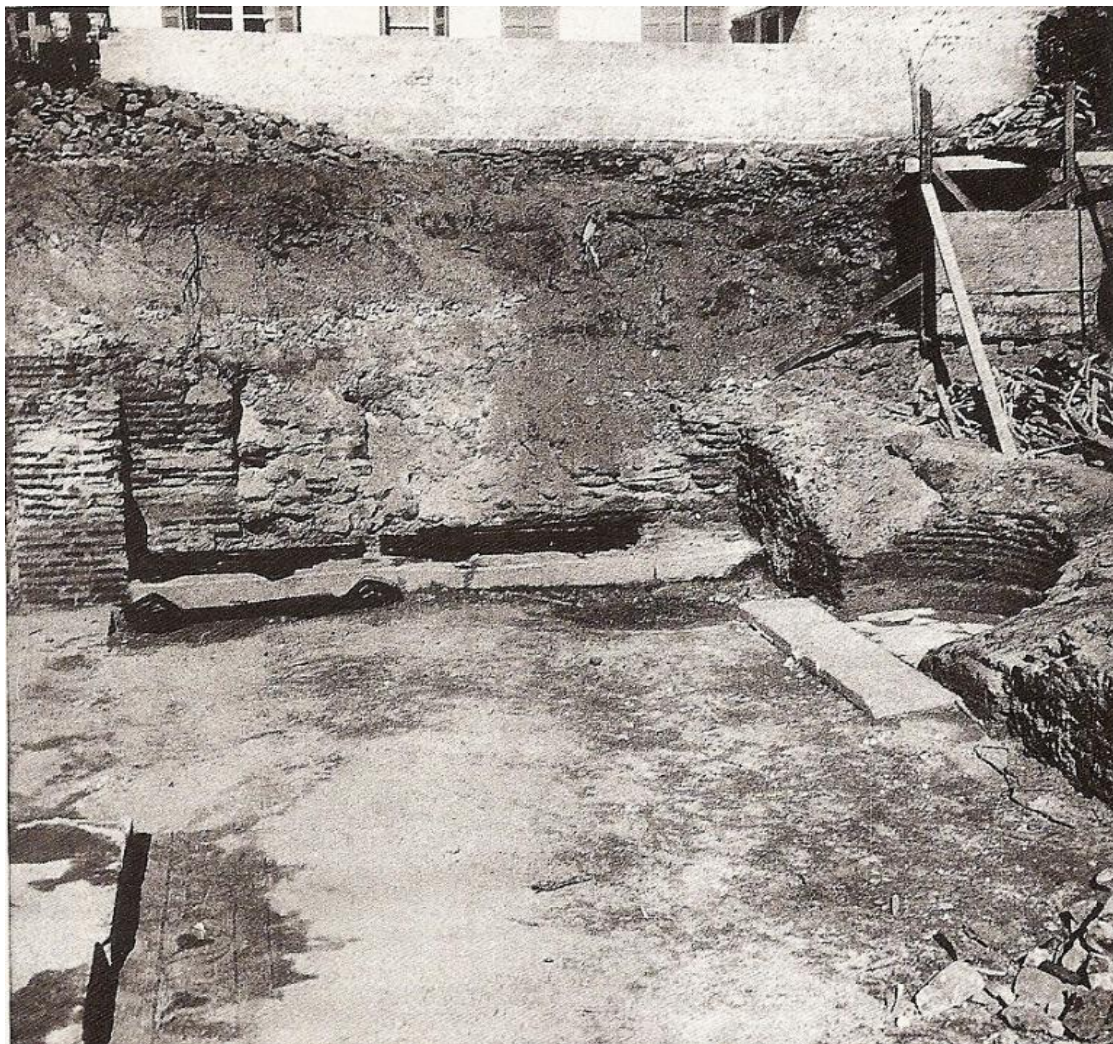


Fig.30. 'Palace of Galerius': Southern Peristyle, eastern corridor, north end. Photograph of 1957, taken from southwest, showing the semicircular niche of the Small Arch of Galerius on the right and a wide doorway to north, later blocked.



Fig.31. 'Palace of Galerius': Southern Peristyle., eastern corridor. Photograph of 1957, taken from northwest, showing the mosaic floor in front of the niche of the Small Arch of Galerius.



Fig.32. 'Palace of Galerius': Southern Peristyle. The 'Small Arch of Galerius'. Archaeological Museum of Thessalonica.

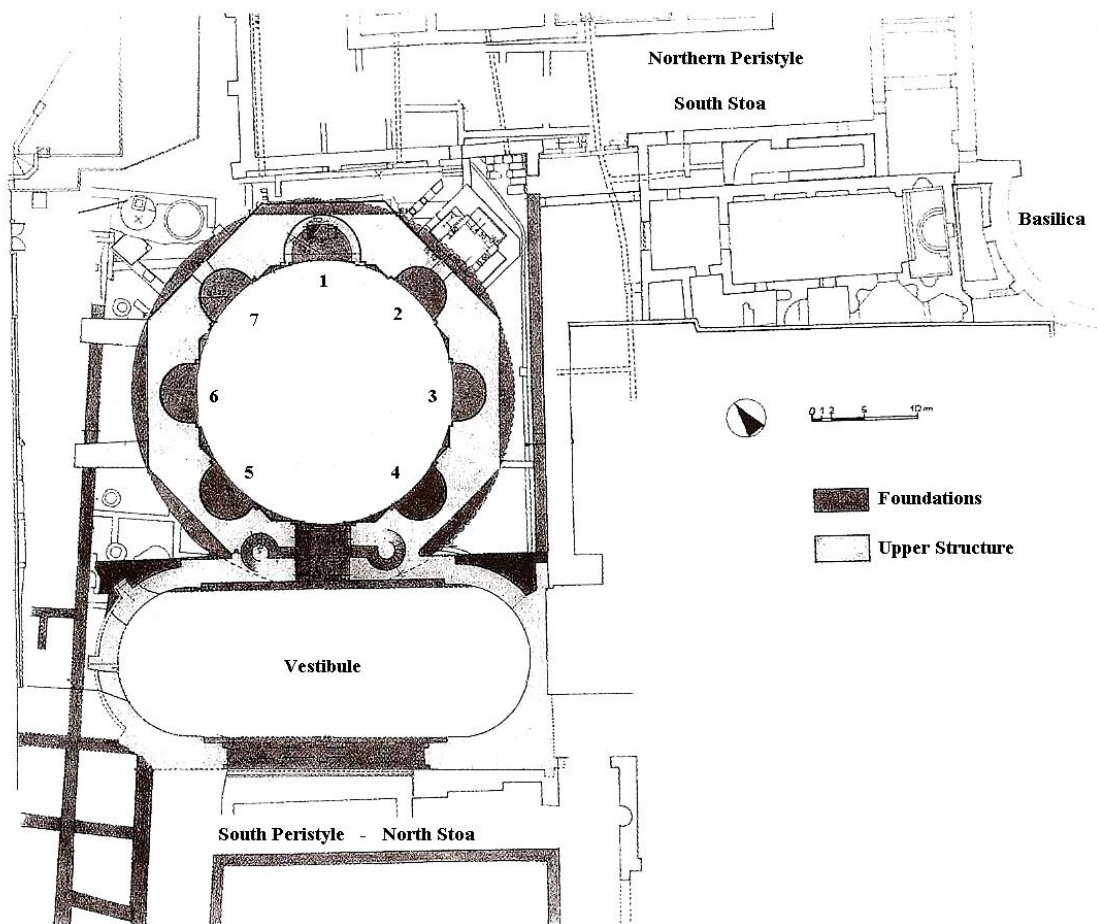


Fig.33. 'Palace of Galerius': Octagon, simplified general site plan.

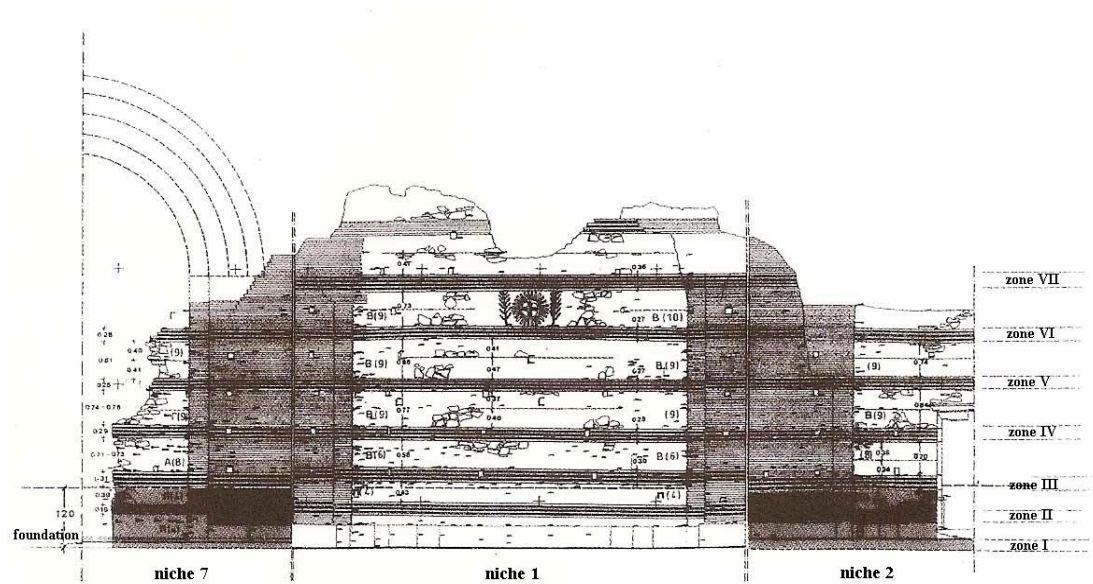


Fig.34. 'Palace of Galerius': Octagon, interior elevation of niche no.1.



Fig.35. 'Palace of Galerius': Octagon, interior elevation of niche no.2, with later door to side chapel.



Fig.36. 'Palace of Galerius': Octagon. Brickwork cross, niche no.1.



Fig.37. 'Palace of Galerius': Octagon, west wall, exterior view.



Fig.38. 'Palace of Galerius': Octagon, Vestibule, exterior of west apsidal end.



Fig.39. 'Palace of Galerius': Octagon, main entrance from inside.



Fig.40. 'Palace of Galerius': Octagon, general view of interior, apse 1 to left, 2 in centre, 3 to right



Fig.41. 'Palace of Galerius': Octagon, view from southwest.

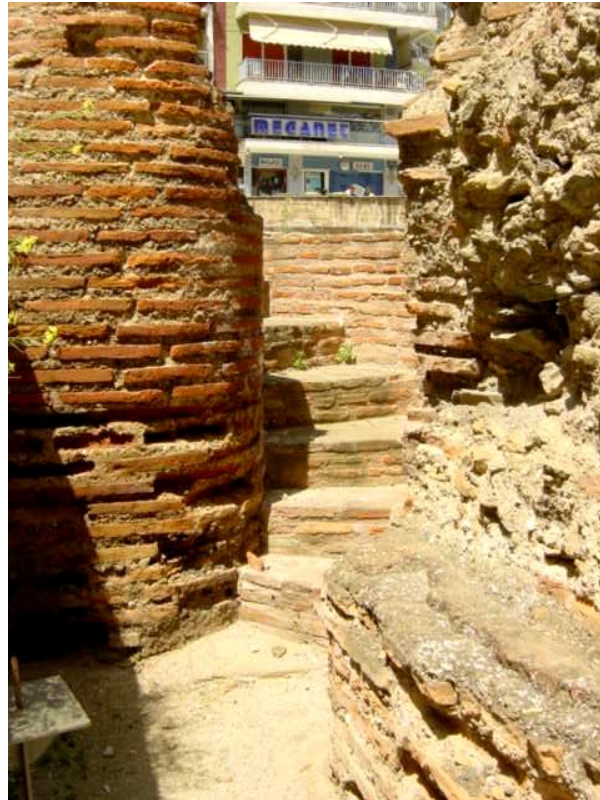


Fig.42. 'Palace of Galerius': Octagon, spiral staircase on western side of main entrance.

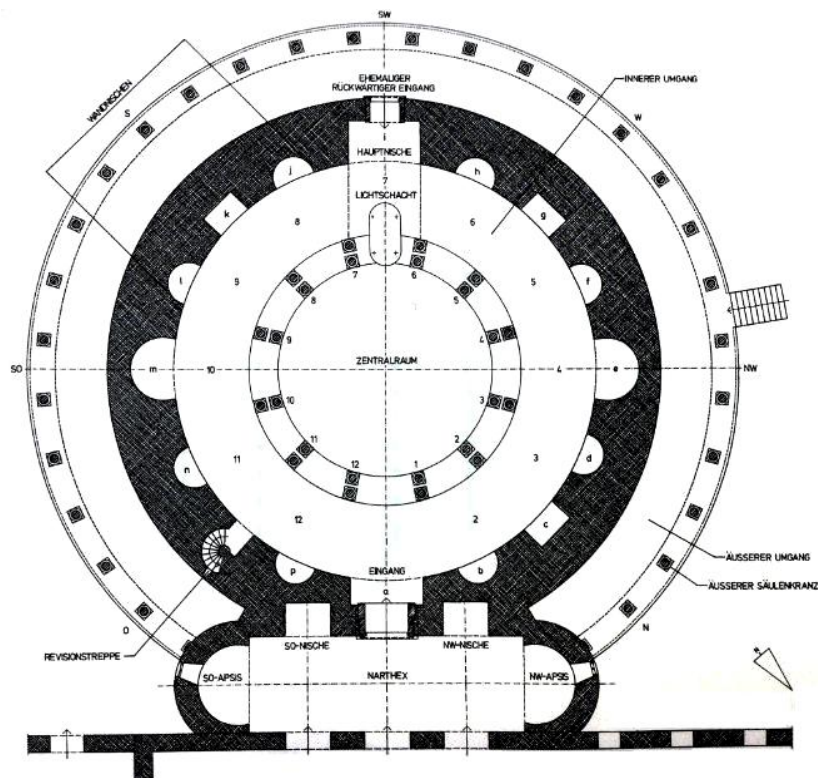


Fig.43. Rome: Mausoleum of St. Costanza, ground plan.



Fig.44. 'Palace of Galerius': Octagon, remains of marble flooring.

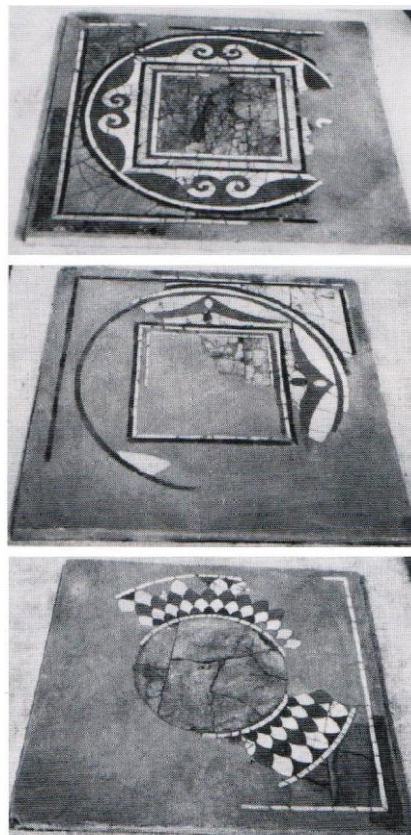


Fig.45. 'Palace of Galerius': Octagon, three opus *sectile* panels from floor.



Fig.46. 'Palace of Galerius': Octagon, marble floor.

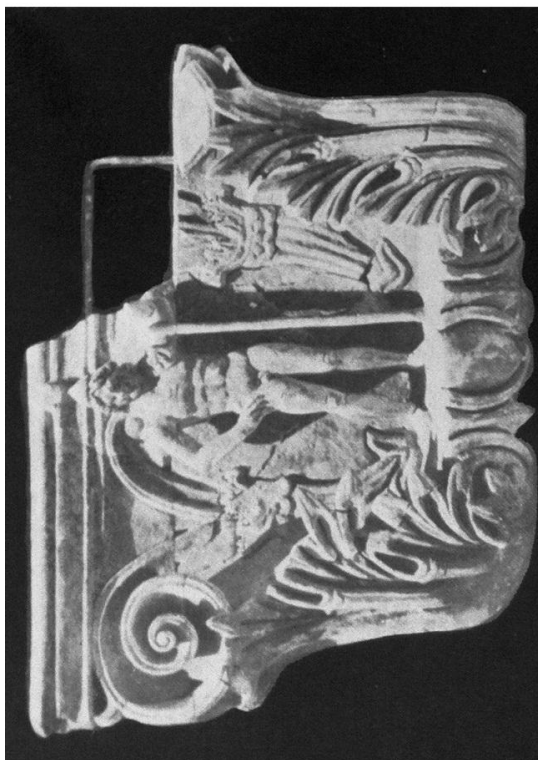
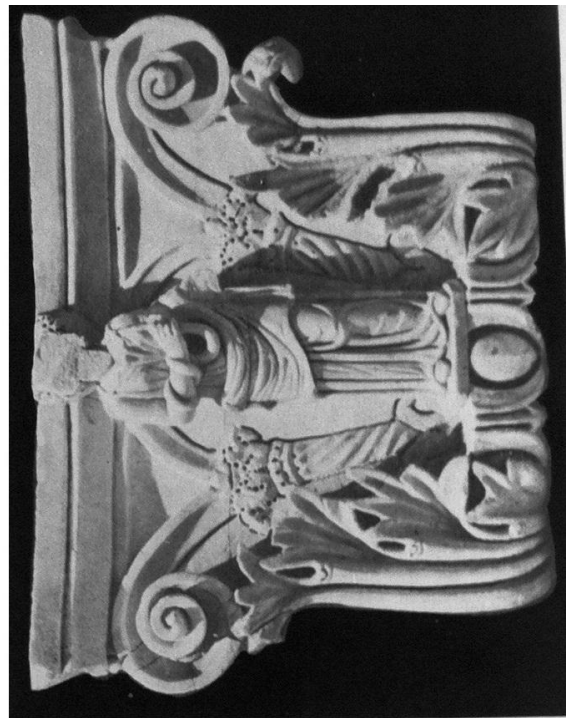


Fig.47. 'Palace of Galerius': Octagon, four figured capitals. Clockwise from top left: Zeus, Hygeia, Cabeiros and Dioscuros.

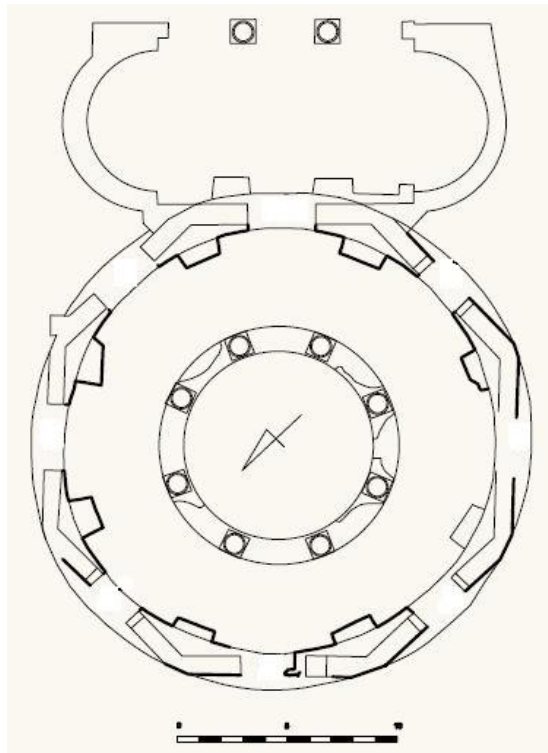


Fig.48. Rome: Lateran Baptistery, ground plan.



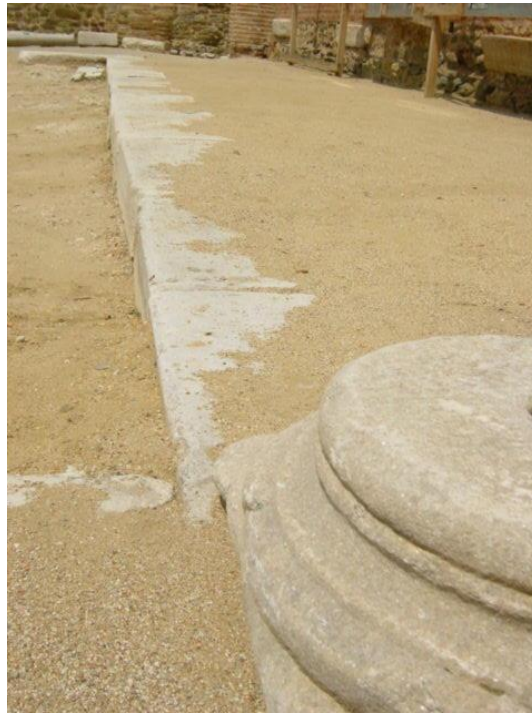
Fig.49. 20 Palaion Patron Germanou St., excavations of 2010 showing stretch of a marble paving..



Fig.50. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle, inner court with the marble stylobate, view from southeast.



Fig.51. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle, inner court (west side) with marble stylobate, view from northwest.



Figs 52-3. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle, inner court with marble stylobate and bases, view from northeast.



Fig.54. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle, rooms 2-5 on northwest side.



Fig.55. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle, suite of larger intercommunicating rooms on southwest side (nos 6-9 of fig.29), viewed from east.



Fig.56. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle, doorway from room 2 to courtyard.



Fig.57. "Palace of Galerius": Northern Peristyle. Marble stairs from passage (27) to southern corridor (15), view from southeast.



Fig.58. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle. Corridor (16) and corridor (17), marble framed entrance from west (30), view from west.



Fig.59. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle. Corridor (17), north wall, door (29), view from northeast.



Fig.60. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle. Corridor (17), door (31) to basilica, view from the eastern corner of the basilica



Fig.61. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle, inner court, Ionic capitals found in the area.

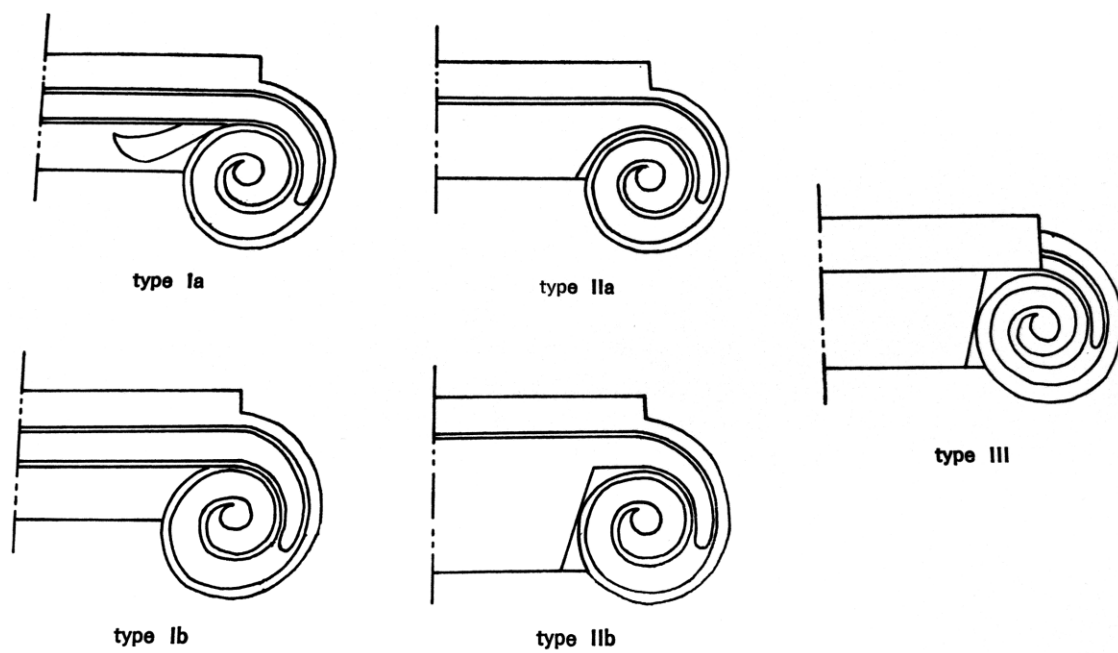


Fig.62. Types of Late Antique Ionic capital.

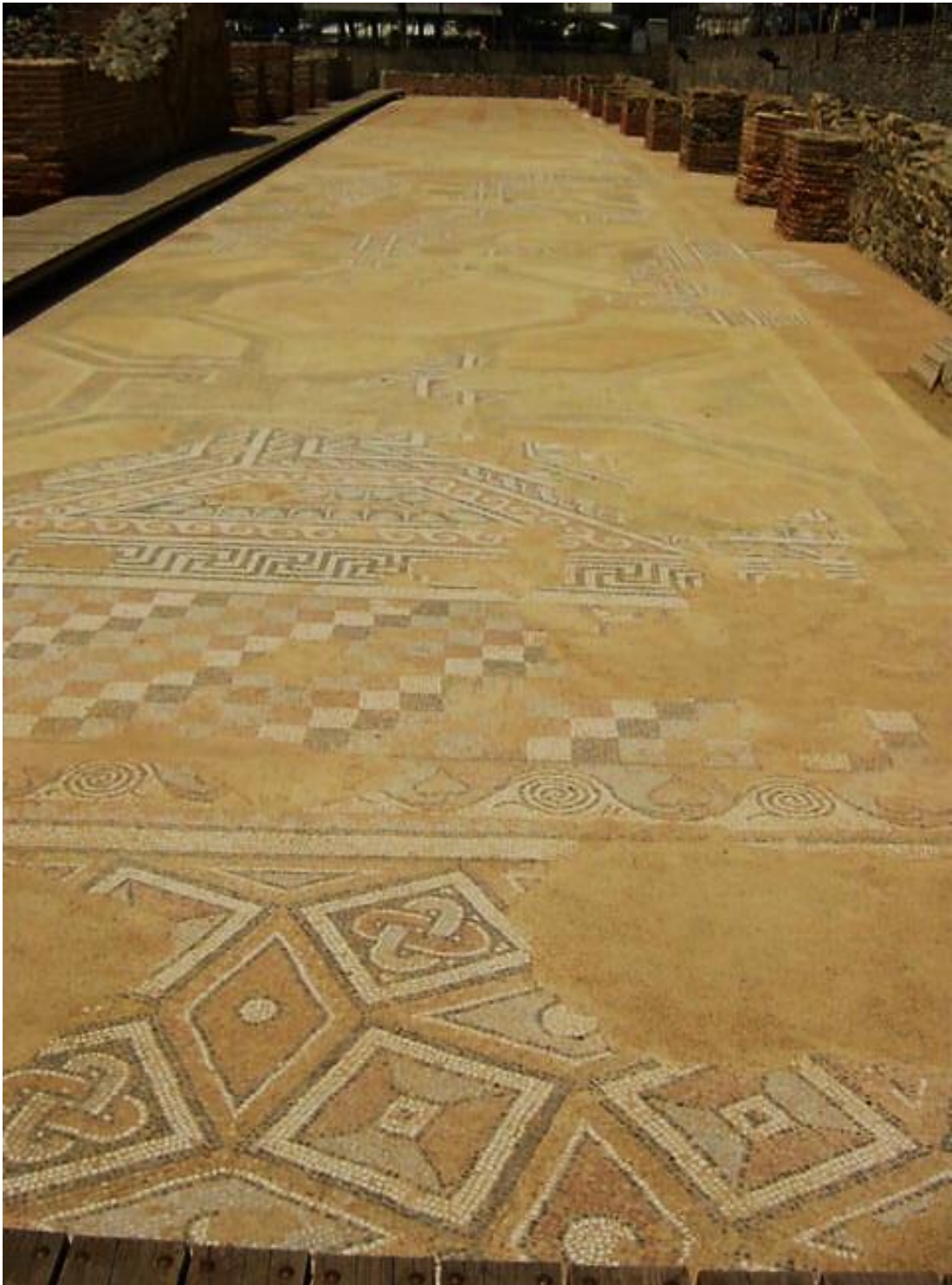


Fig.63. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle, Corridor (17), from northeast.

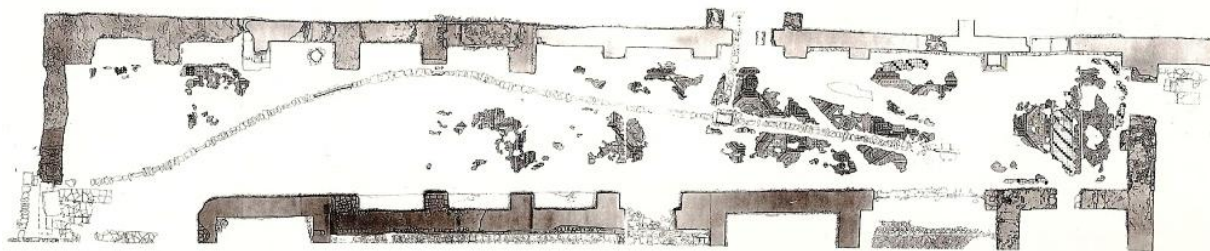
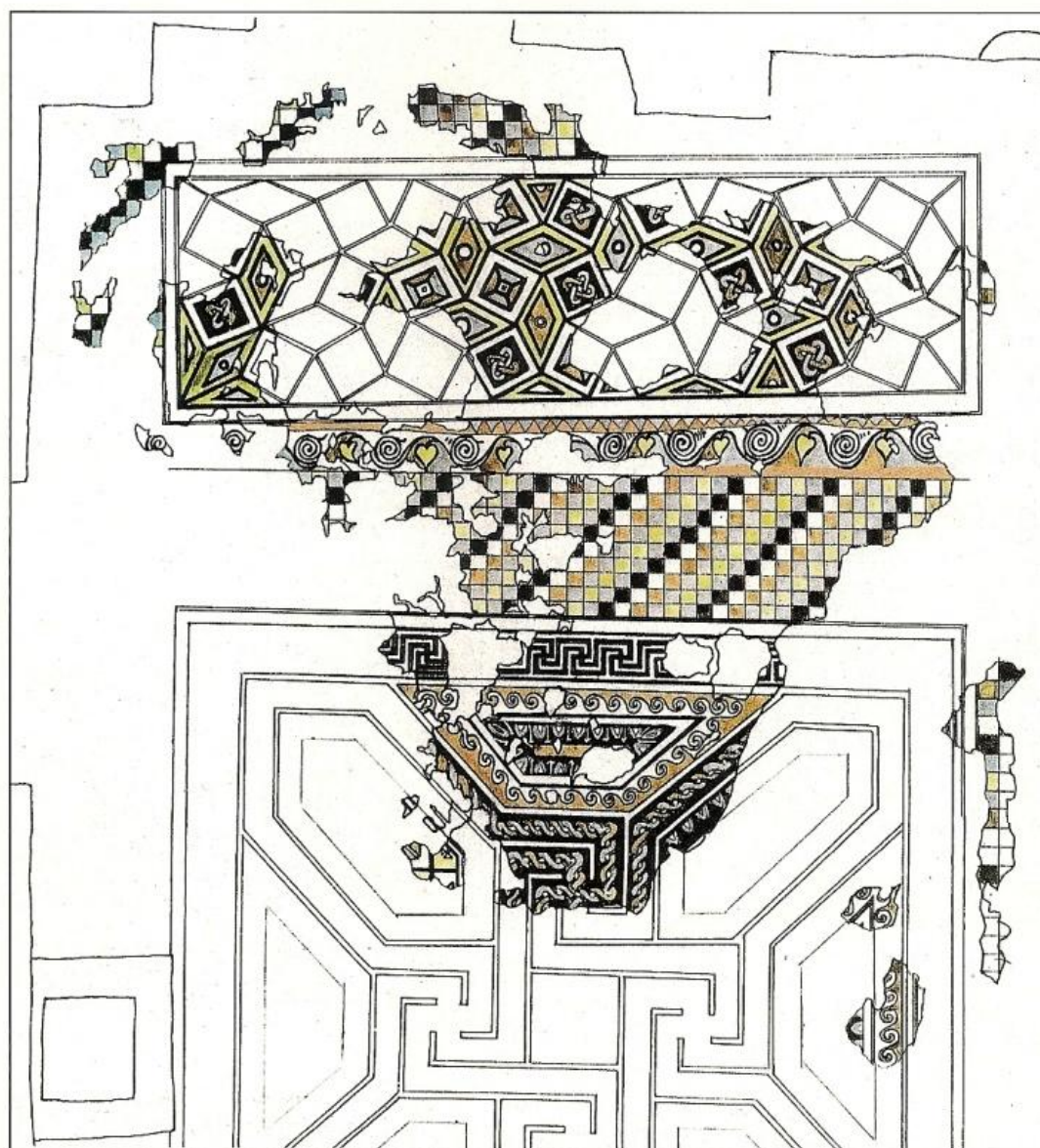


Fig. 64. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle. Corridor (17) mosaics.



α

Fig. 65. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle. Corridor (17), detail of mosaic, northeast end.

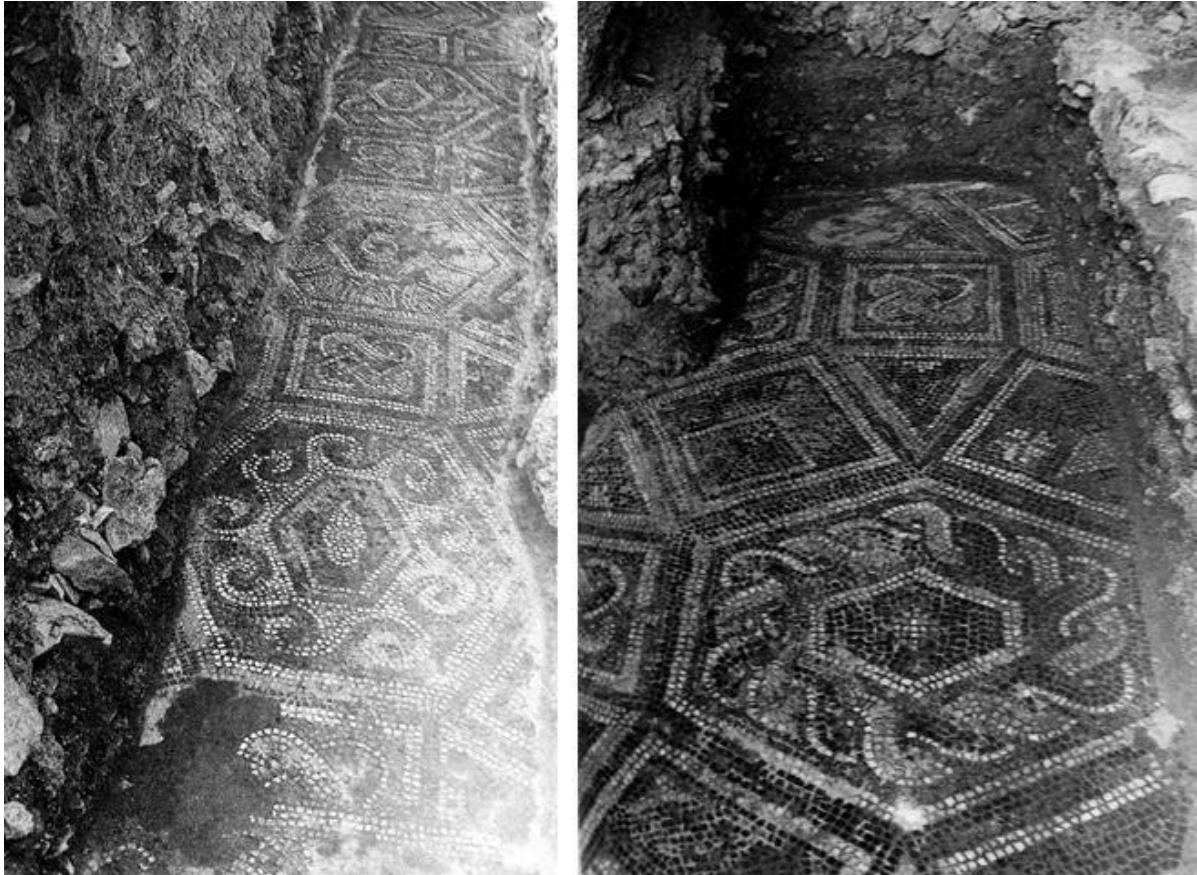


Fig.66 (a-b). Phthiotic Thebes: The Basilica of Archbishop Peter. Mosaics from the 1st period (possible date: mid-4th c.).



Fig.67. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle. Corridor (14) from north.



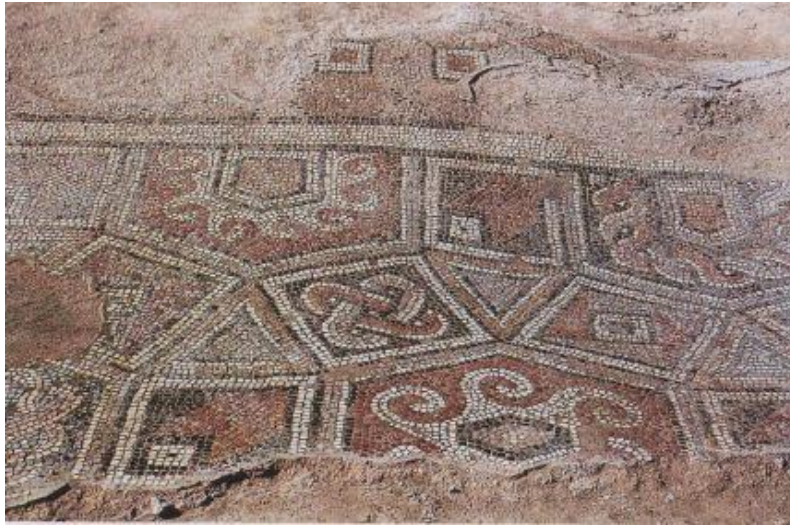
Fig.68. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle. Corridor (14), from south.



Fig.69. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle. Corridor (14). Geometric mosaics, detail.



Figs 70-1. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle. Corridor (16) from south, marble slabs.



Figs 72-4. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle. Corridor (15). Mosaic floor, details.



Fig.75. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle. Western Corridor (16). Detail of the meander pattern in perspective.



Fig.76. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle. Building (18), northeast staircase.



Fig.77. 'Palace of Galerius': Northern Peristyle. Building (18) southwest staircase, view from southeast.



Fig.78. 'Palace of Galerius': Basilica (19), interior of apse, from northeast.



Fig.79. 'Palace of Galerius': Basilica (19) southwest side of apse, interior face.



Fig.80. 'Palace of Galerius': Basilica (19), view from southeast showing (restored) core of wall.

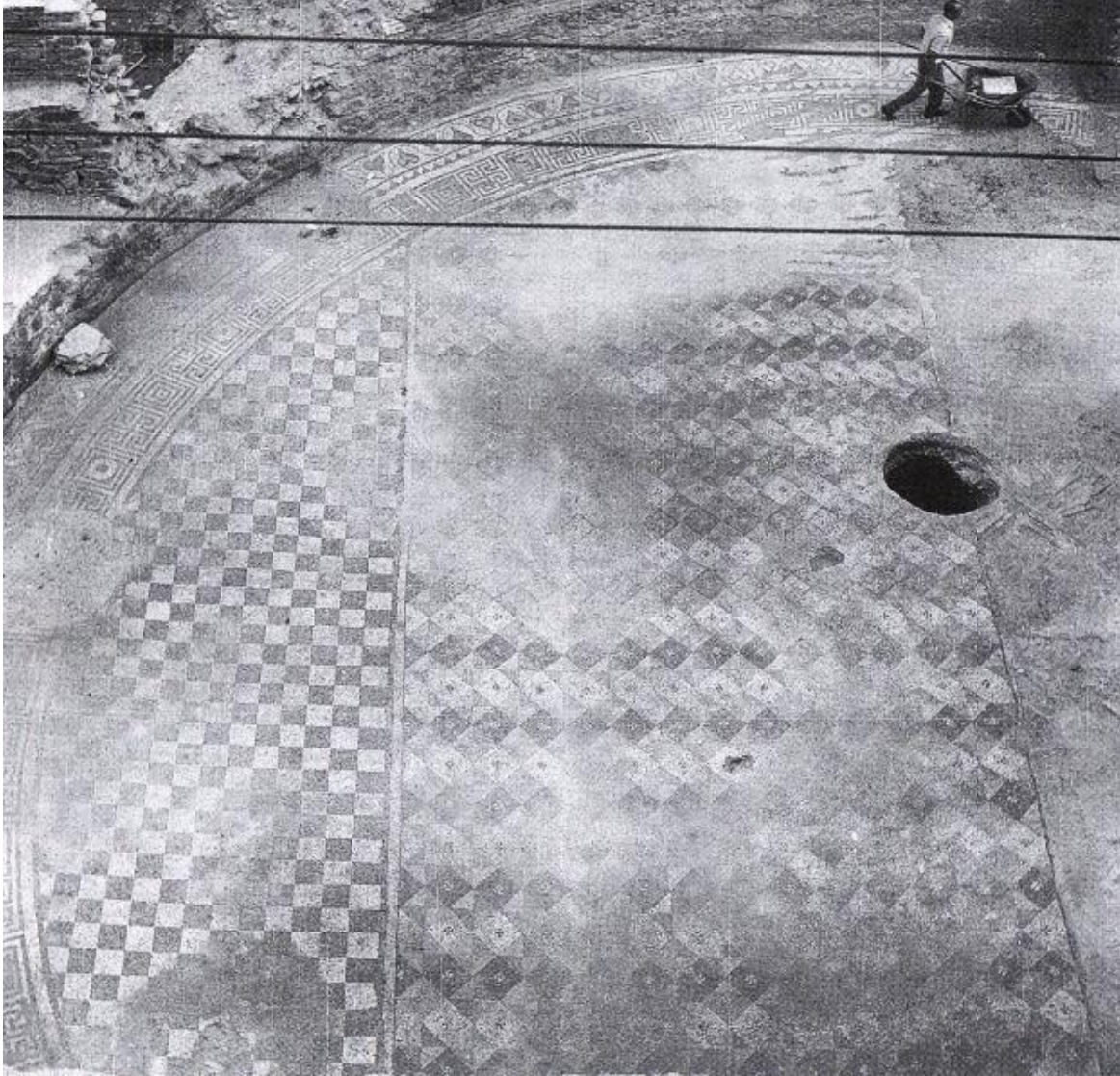


Fig.81. 'Palace of Galerius': Basilica apse, mosaic flooring, photographed in 1969.



Fig.82. 'Palace of Galerius': Basilica (19), general view down length of hall to apse, from north.



Fig.83. 'Palace of Galerius': Basilica (19), marble paving in main hall.

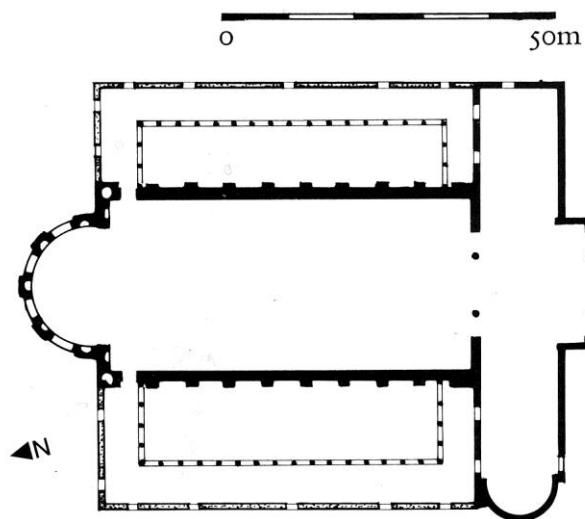


Fig.84. Trier: Basilica, ground plan, early 4th century.



Fig.85. 'Palace of Galerius': Nymphaeum (21). General view from southwest.



Fig.86. 'Palace of Galerius': Nymphaeum (21). East end.



Fig.87. 'Palace of Galerius': Nymphaeum (21). East end, detail of marble-lined basin.



Fig.88. 'Palace of Galerius': Nymphaeum. Rooms nos 24-25.



Fig.89. 'Palace of Galerius': Nymphaeum. Room 22, view from south.

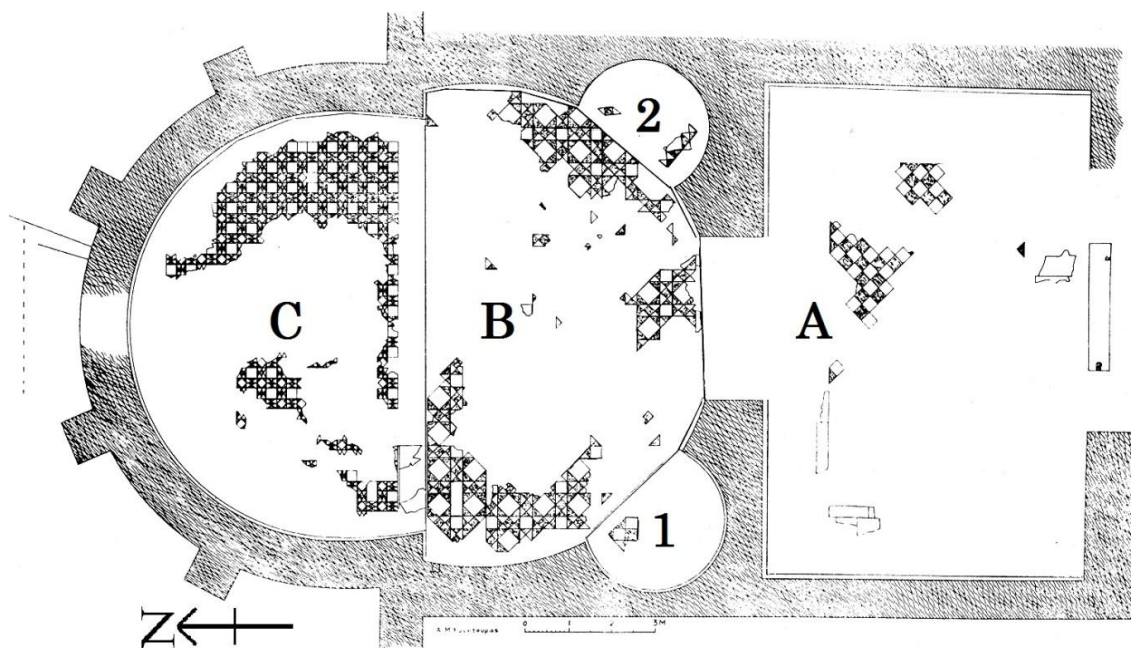


Fig.90. Gounari St.: Polygonal building.



Fig.91. Gounari St.: Polygonal building. View from northeast.



Fig.92. Gounari St.: Polygonal building - southeast smaller apsidal recess with brick-faced walling, and mortar backing for marble veneer in vertical panels.



Fig.93. Gounari St.: Polygonal building. Room C from west.

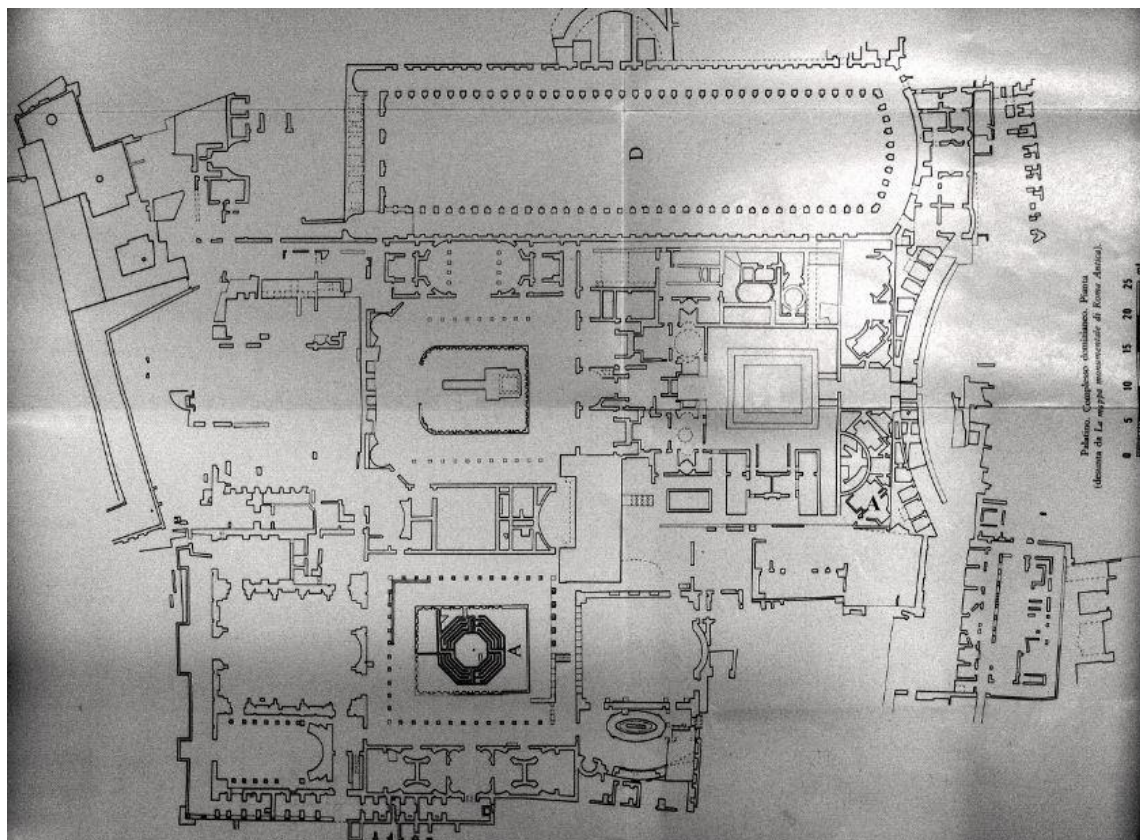


Fig.94. Rome: Palatine, Domus Augustana (c. 92 AD), plan.

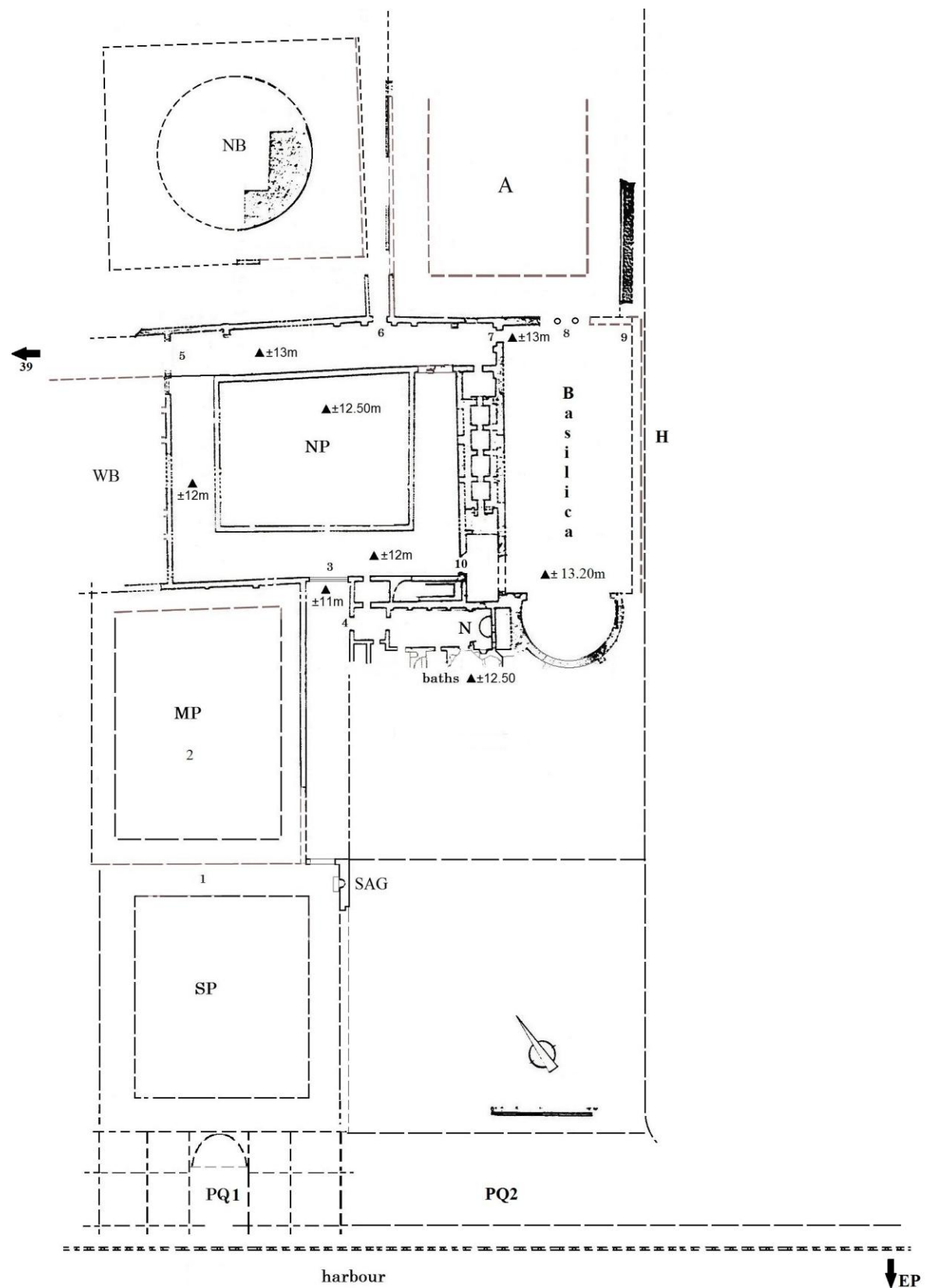


Fig.95. 'Palace of Galerius': hypothetical 4th century reconstruction of palace core.

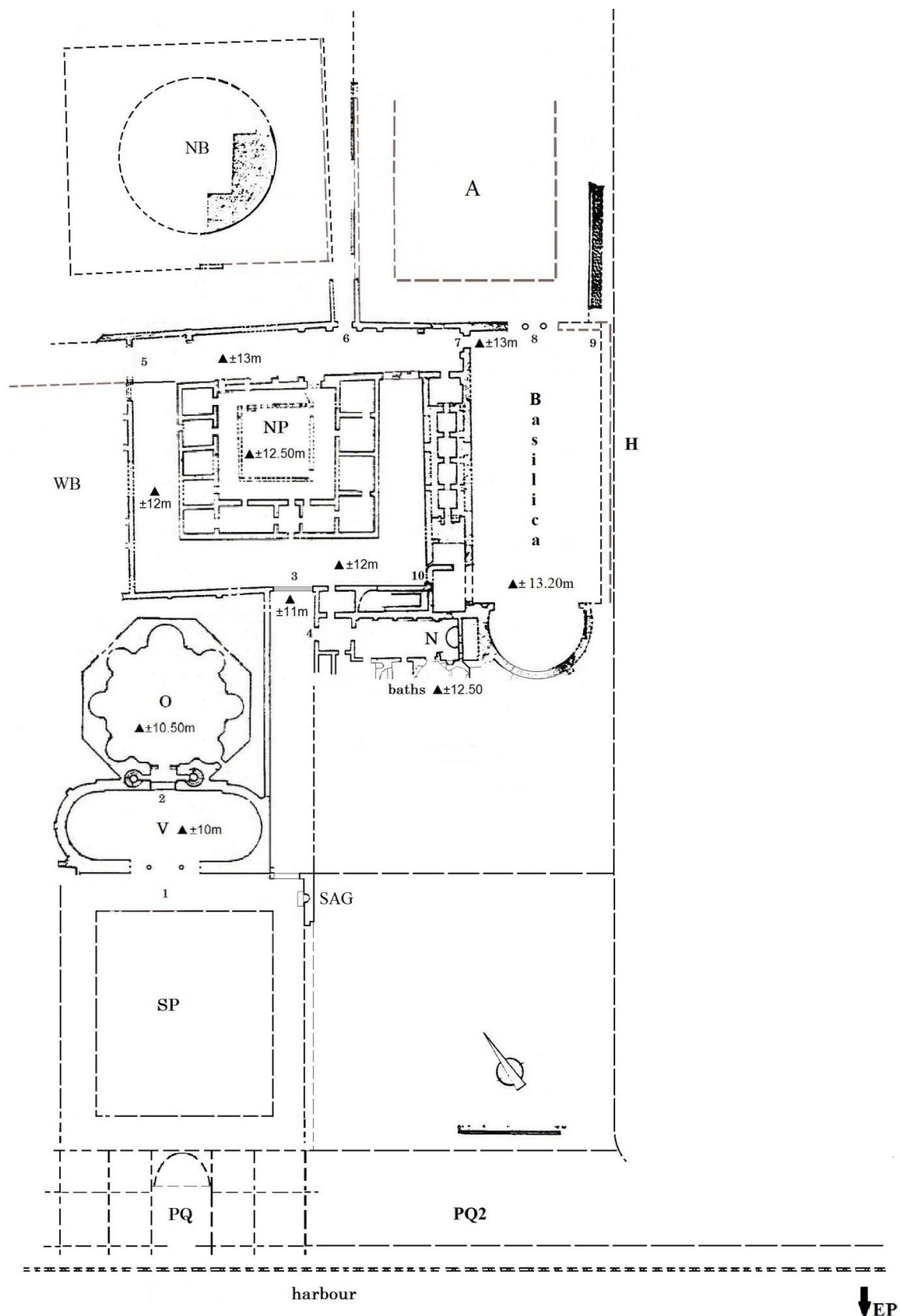


Fig.96. 'Palace of Galerius': hypothetical reconstruction of later alterations and additions.

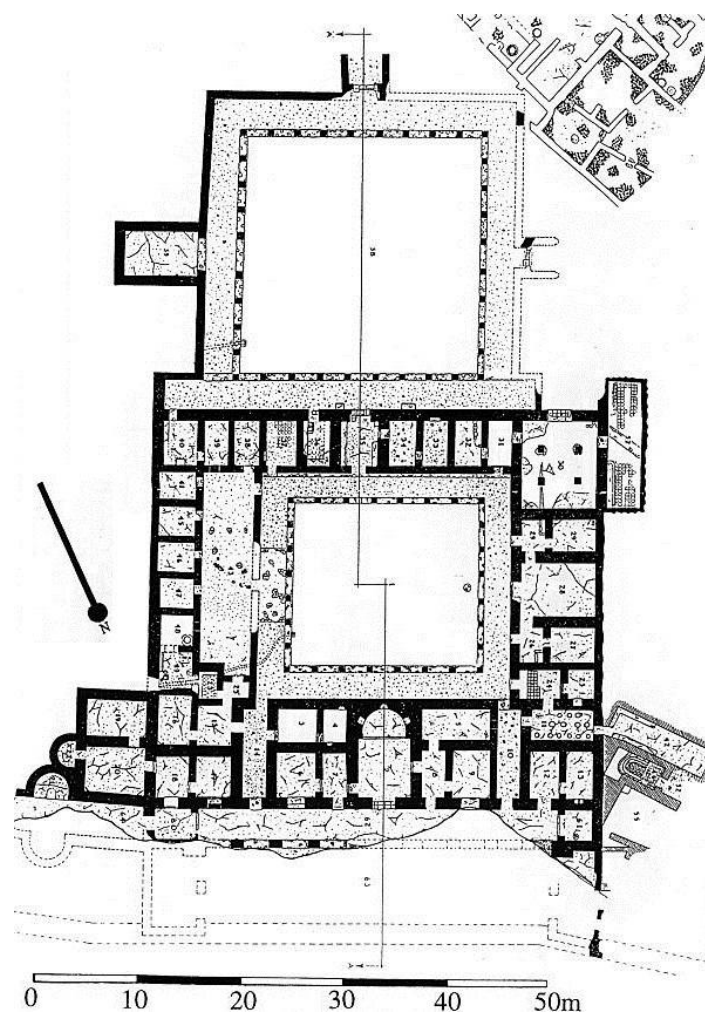


Fig.97. Dura Europos: The so-called 'Palace of Dux Ripae' (AD 220s).

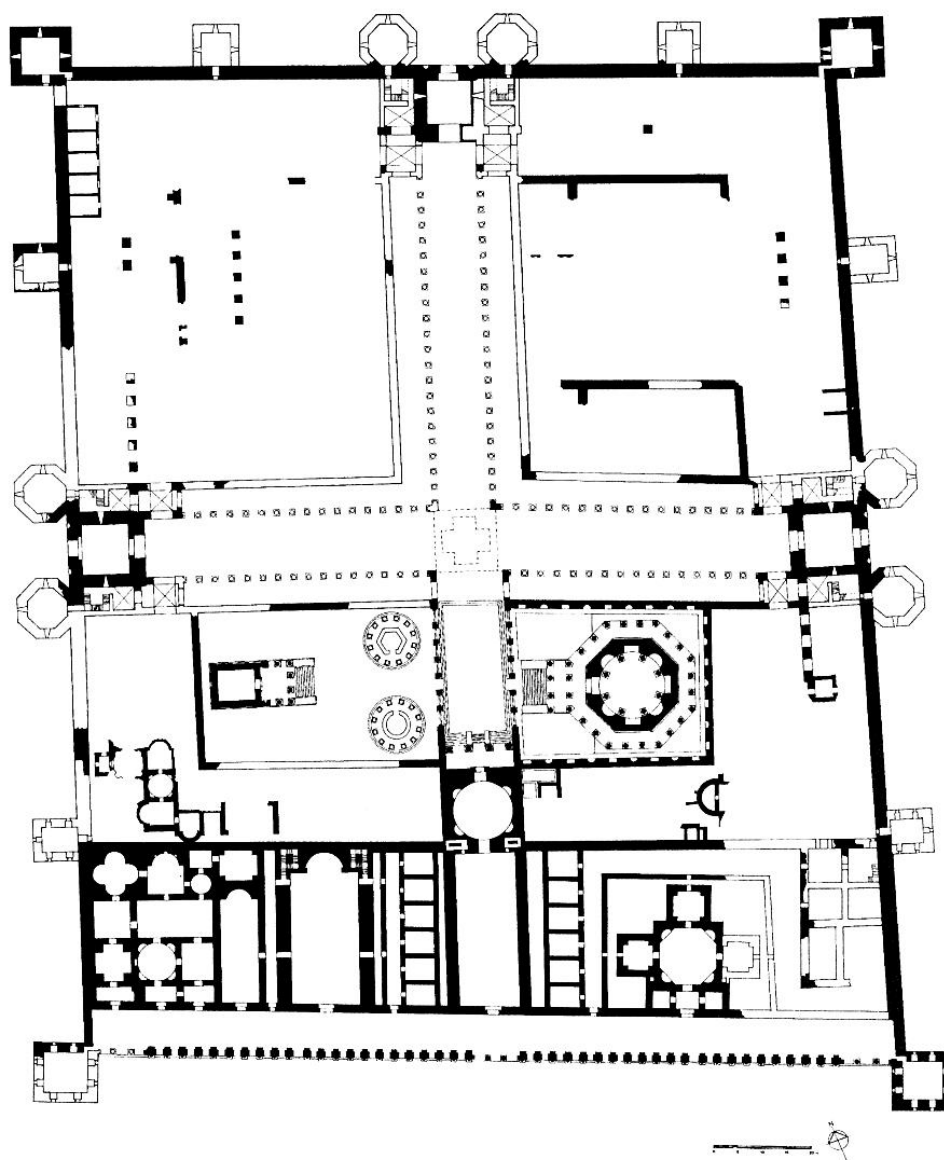


Fig.98. Split: Diocletian's Palace. General plan.

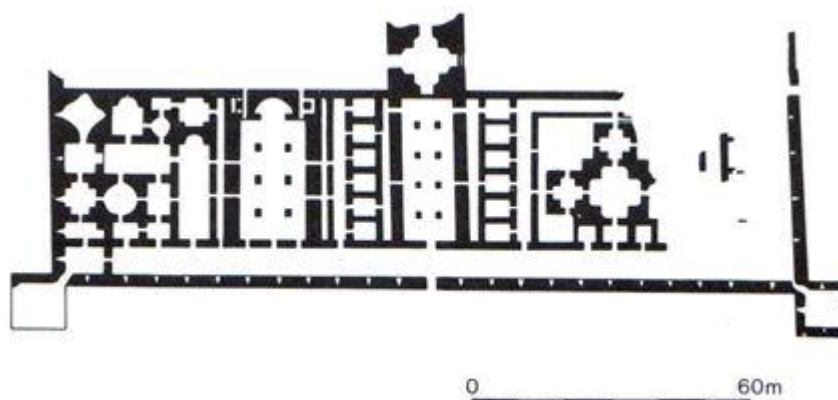


Fig.99. Split: Diocletian's Palace. Reconstructed south wing.

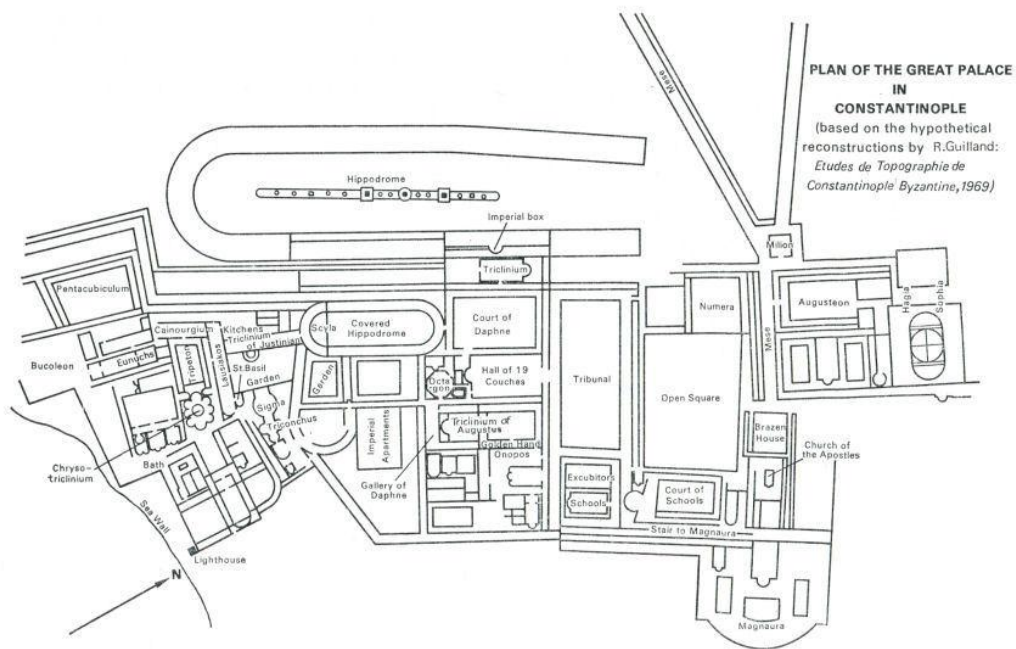


Fig.100. Constantinople: Imperial palace. Hypothetical reconstruction.

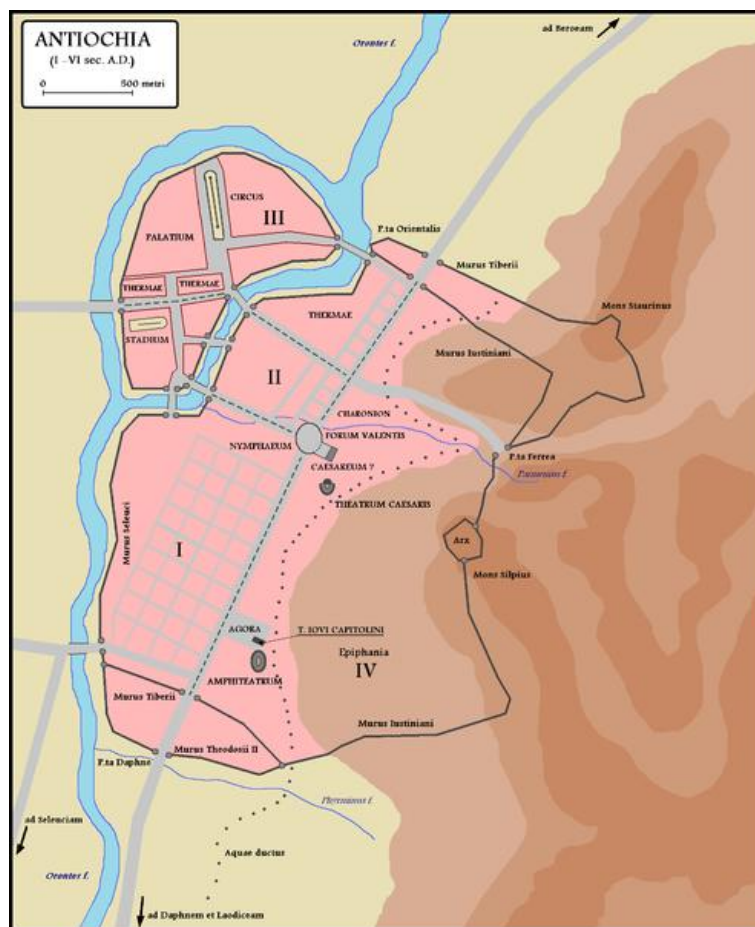


Fig.101. Antioch: General city plan.

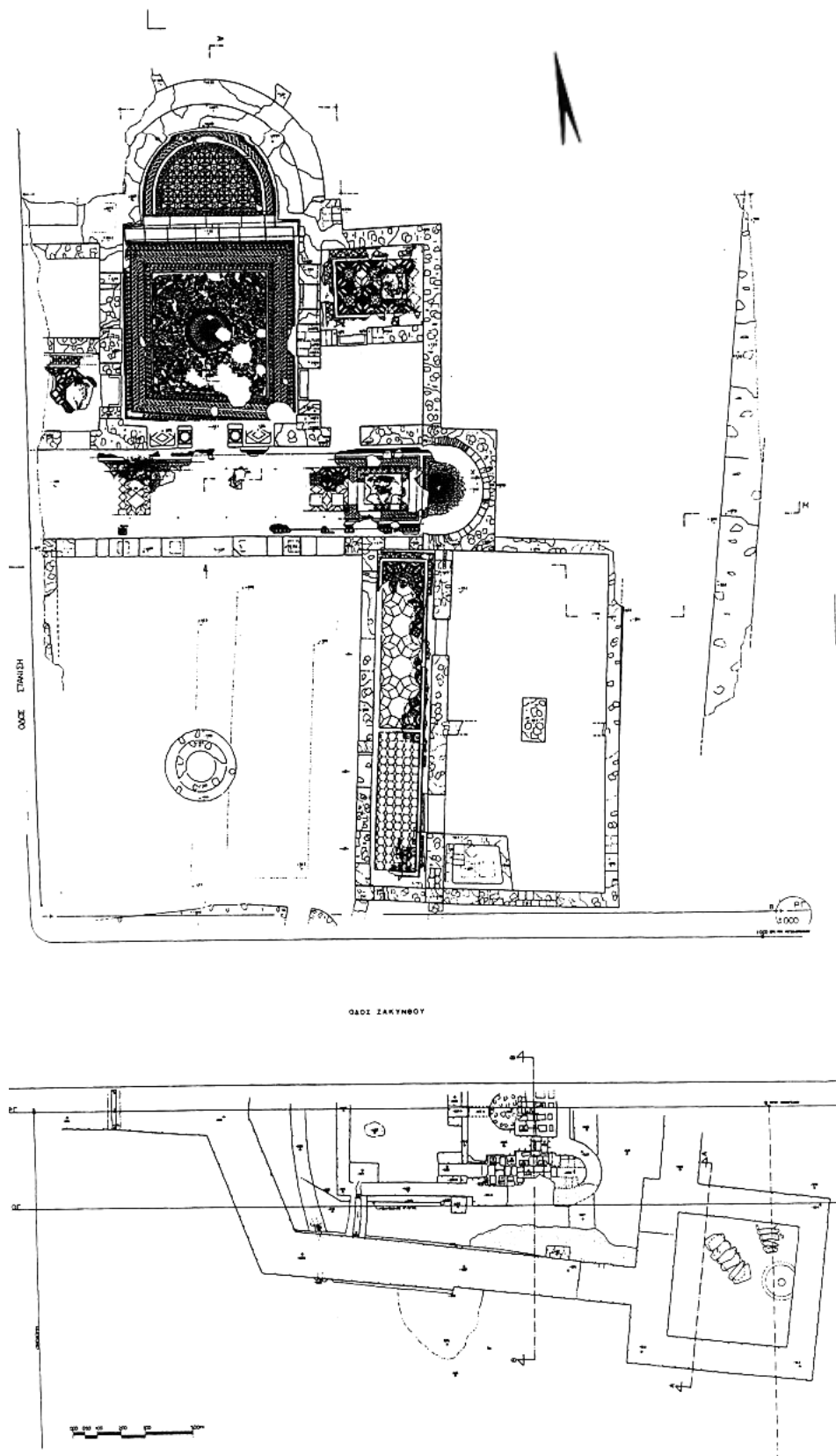


Fig.102. Palaeokastro, Villa: General site plan.

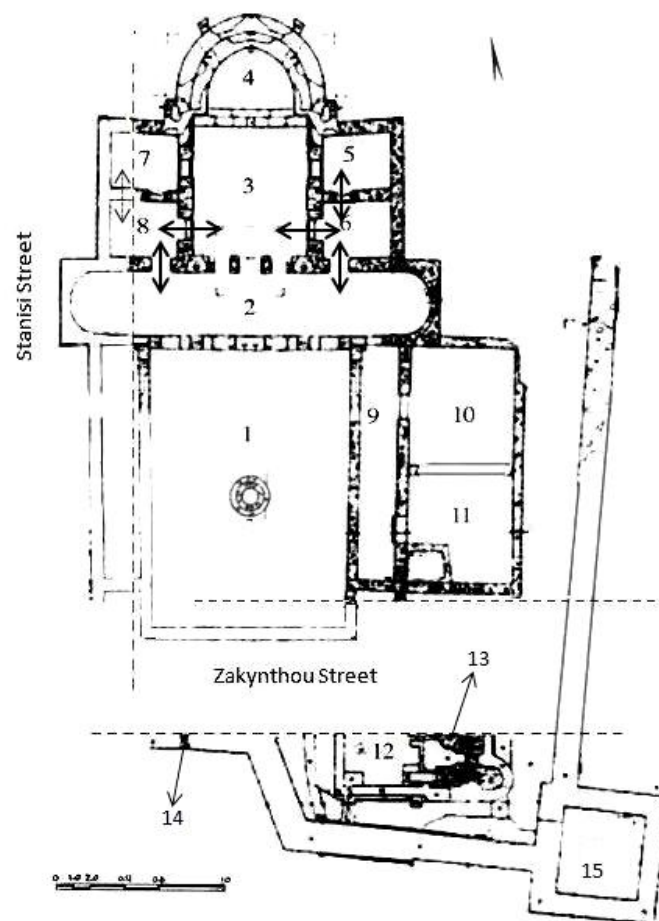


Fig.103. Palaeokastro, Villa: Restored plan with added numbering.



Fig.104. Palaeokastro, Villa: The tower.



Fig.105. Palaeokastro, Villa: Eastern wall of courtyard, with corridor 9 and rooms 10/11 behind.

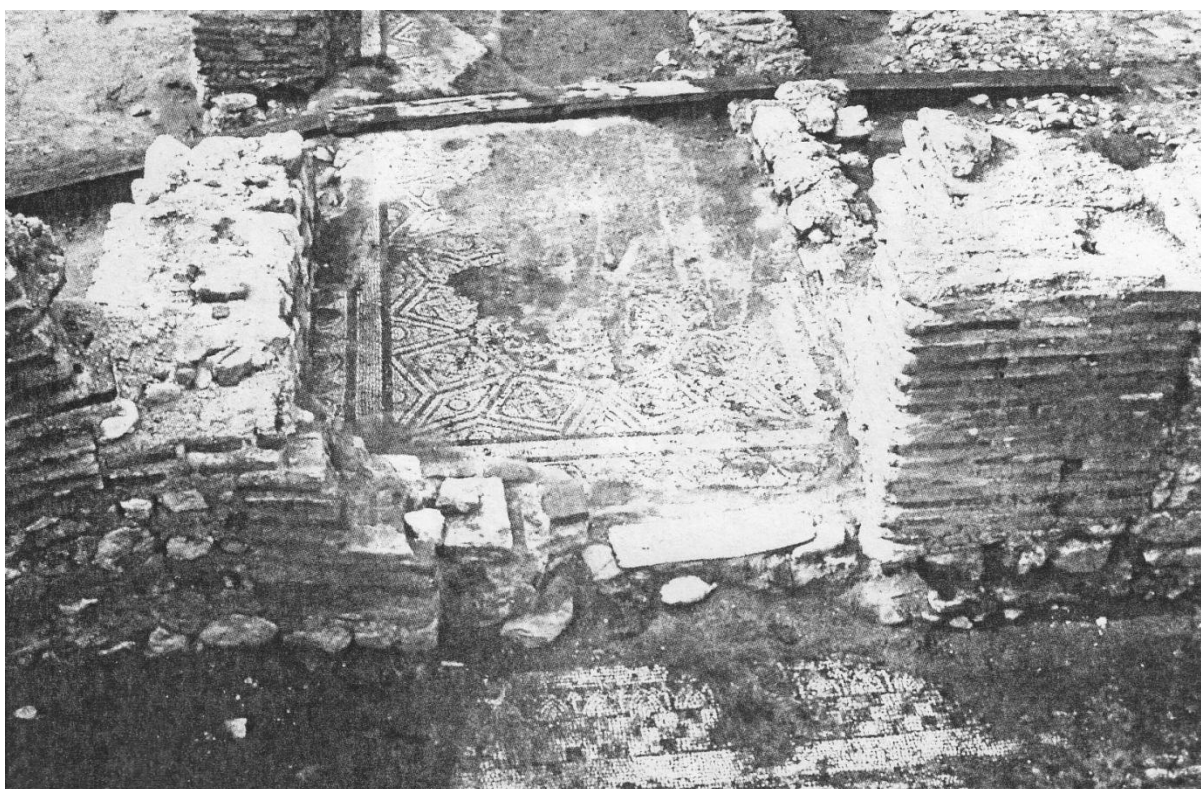


Fig.106. Palaeokastro, Villa: Corridor 9, view from north.



Fig.107. Palaeokastro, Villa: Northern corridor 2, view of apse at east end.



Fig.108. Palaeokastro, Villa: Northern corridor 2, detailed view of apse at east end.



Fig.109. Palaeokastro: Northern corridor (2), eastern apse.



Fig.110. Palaeokastro, Villa: East side, external wall (rooms 10, 2, 5-6).



Fig.111. Palaeokastro, Villa: Northern corridor 2, apse mosaic.

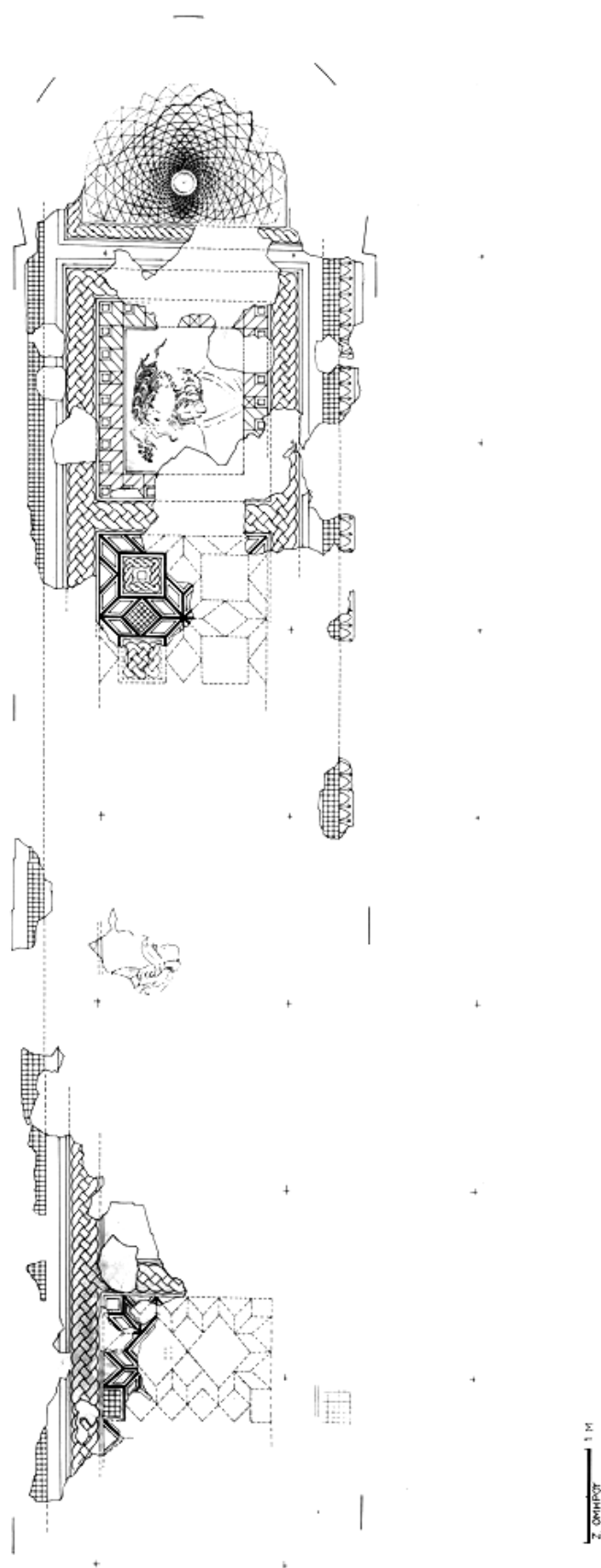


Fig.112. Palaeokastro, Villa: Plan of the mosaic floors in the northern corridor.



Fig.113. 16 Gounari St.: Mosaic floor.



Fig.114. 75 Athinas St. (now 101 Olymbiados St.): Mosaic floor.



Fig.115. Palaeokastro, Villa. Northern corridor 2. Echedoros panel mosaic.



Fig.116. 'Palace of Galerius': Southern Peristyle, West Corridor, mosaic floor.



Fig.117. Archaeological Museum of Thessalonica, a mosaic possibly from a residence on 30 Syggrou St.

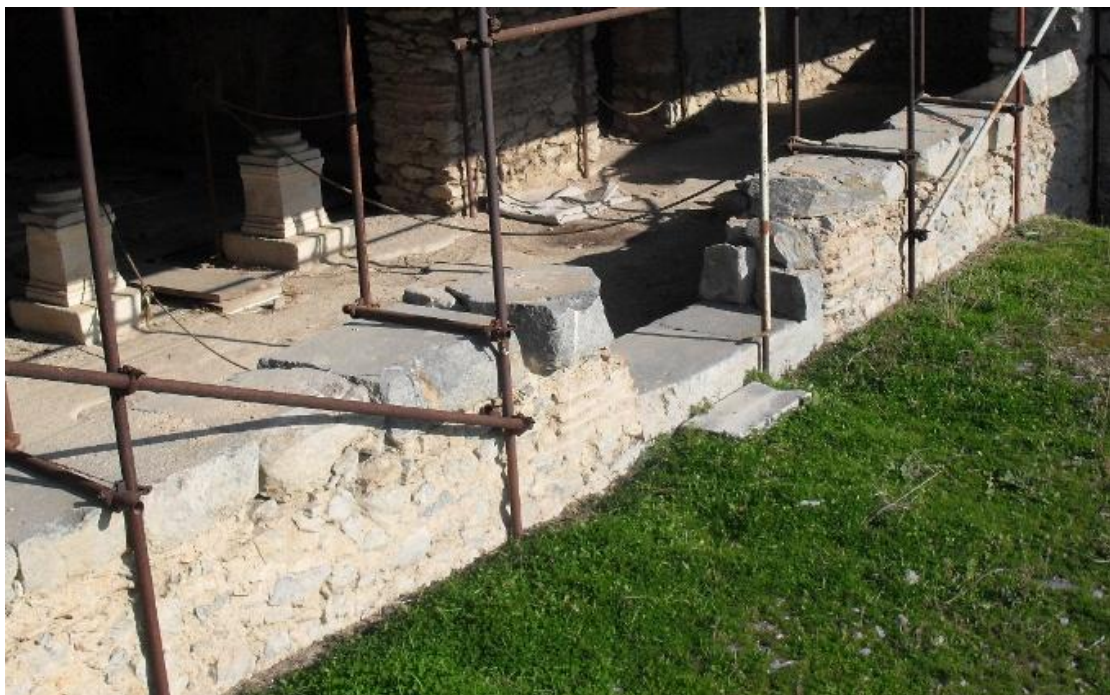


Fig.118. Palaeokastro, Villa: North wall of courtyard 1, from southwest, showing central doorway.



Fig.119. Palaeokastro, Villa: North wall of courtyard 1, from south.



Fig.120. Palaeokastro, Villa: South side of hall 3 viewed from room 8.



Fig.121. Palaeokastro, Villa: Apsidal hall 3-4, from north.



Fig.122. Palaeokastro, Villa: Apsidal hall 3-4 and rooms 5-6, from west.



Fig.123. Palaeokastro, Villa: Apsidal hall 3-4 and rooms 5-6, from west.

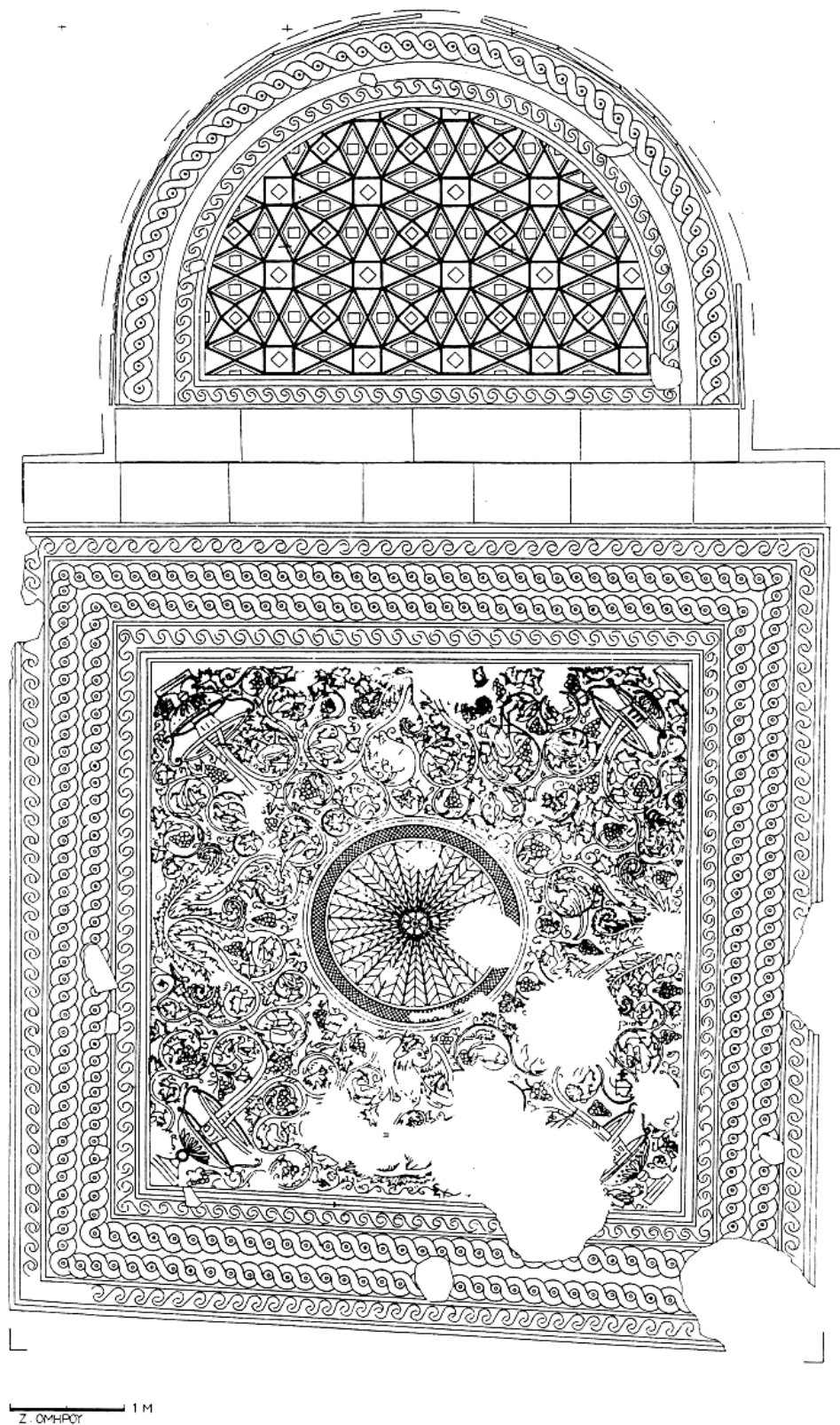


Fig.124. Palaeokastro, Villa: Apsidal hall 3-4, plan of mosaics.



Fig.125. Palaeokastro, Villa: Apsidal hall 3. Detail of mosaic.



Fig.126. Palaeokastro, Villa: Apsidal hall 3. Detail of mosaic.



Fig.127. Palaeokastro, Villa: Apsidal hall 3, northeast corner, showing marble step to apse and fragment of painted pilaster on wall to right.



Fig.128. Palaeokastro, Villa: Apsal 4, mosaic floor.



Fig.129. 90 Kassandrou St.: Room III, mosaic floor.



Fig.130. Palaeokastro, Villa: Room 5 viewed from west.



Fig.131. Palaeokastro, Villa: Room 5 viewed from east.



Fig.132. Palaeokastro, Villa: Room 5, Leda mosaic.



Fig.133. Palaeokastro, Villa: Room 8, Dancing Maenad mosaic.



Fig.134. Palaeokastro, Villa: Bath 13, from north.

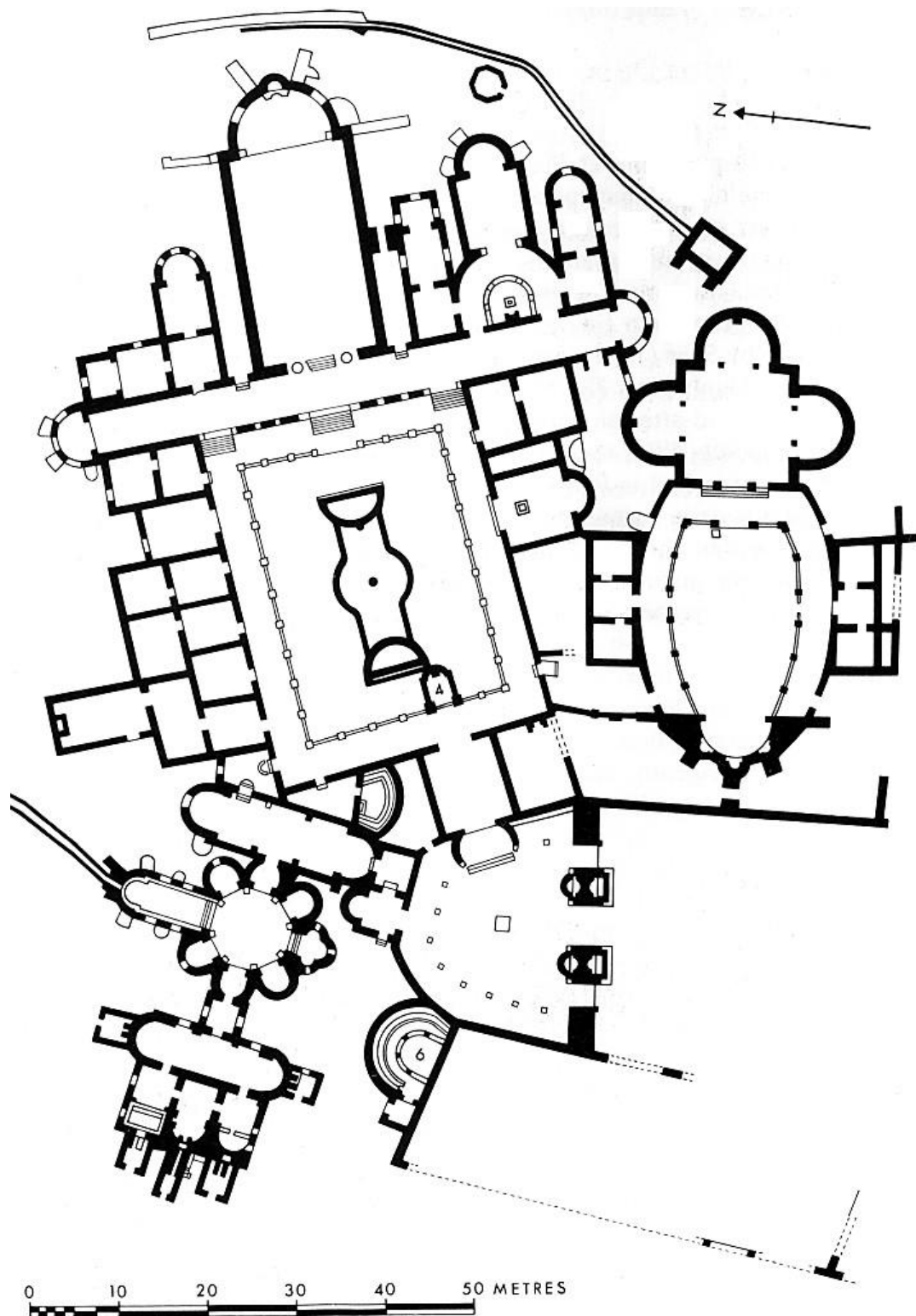


Fig.135. Sicily, Piazza Armerina: General site plan.

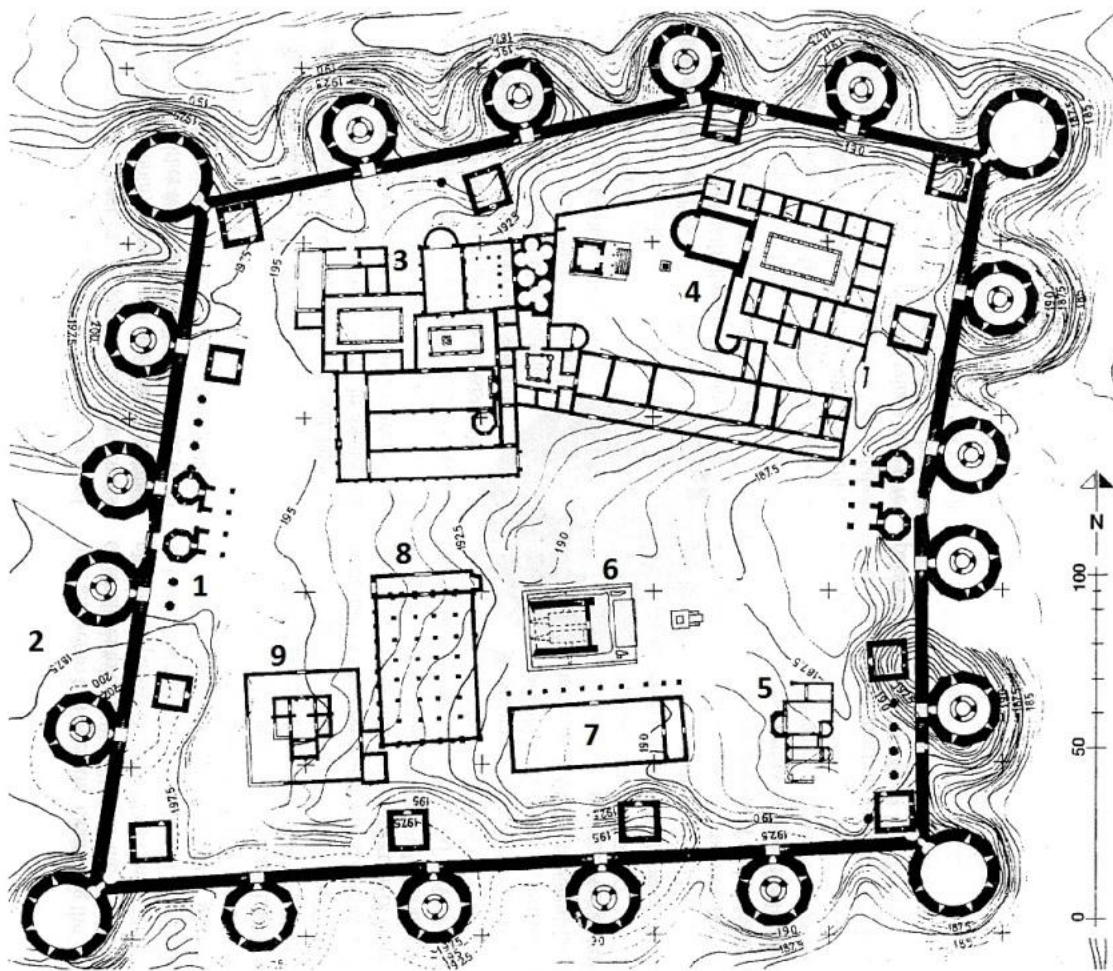


Fig.136. Felix Romuliana (Gamzigrad): General site plan with added numbering.

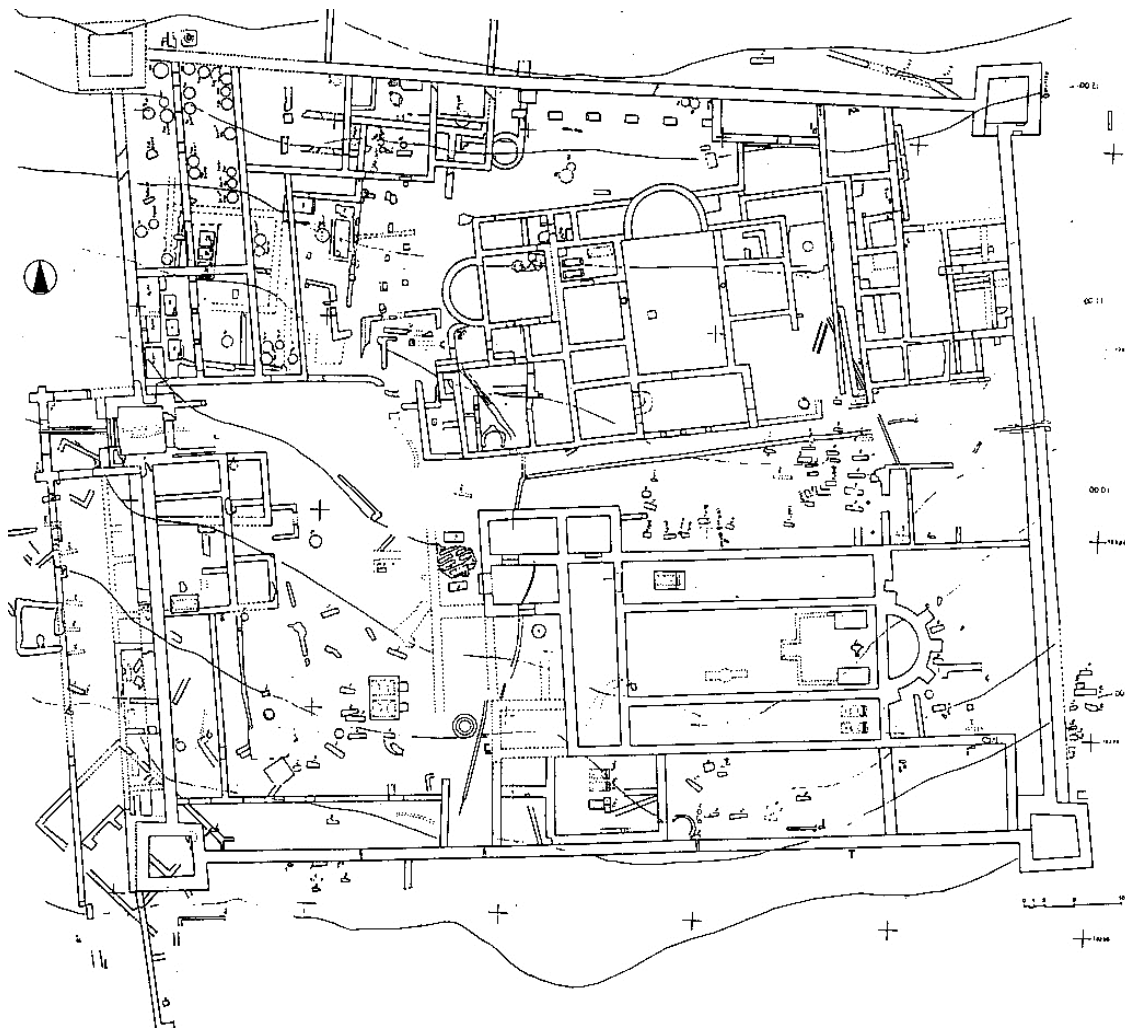


Fig.137. Louloudies Kitrous: General plan of the site.

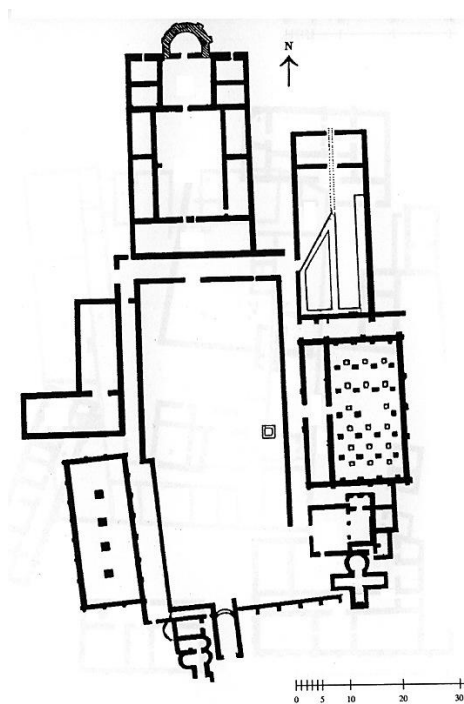


Fig.138. Montana 1 (Moesia Inferior: Bulgaria): General site plan.

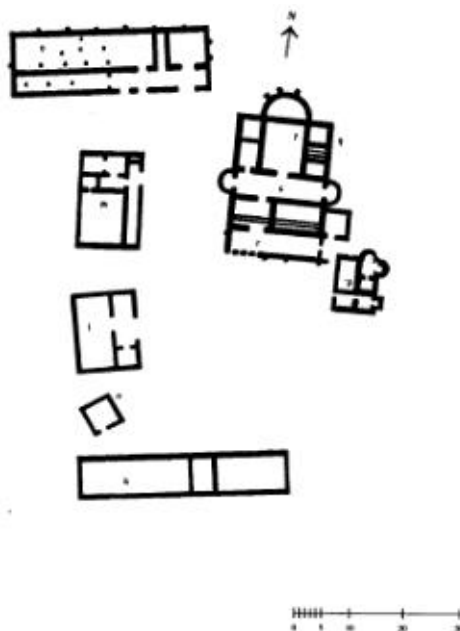


Fig.139. Montana 2 (Moesia Inferior: Bulgaria): General site plan.

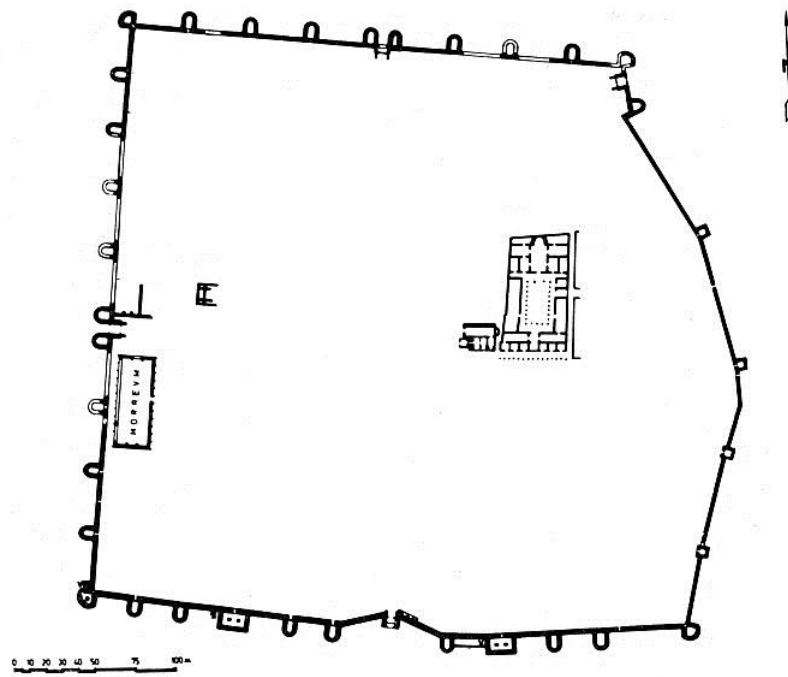


Fig.140. Abritus: General site plan.

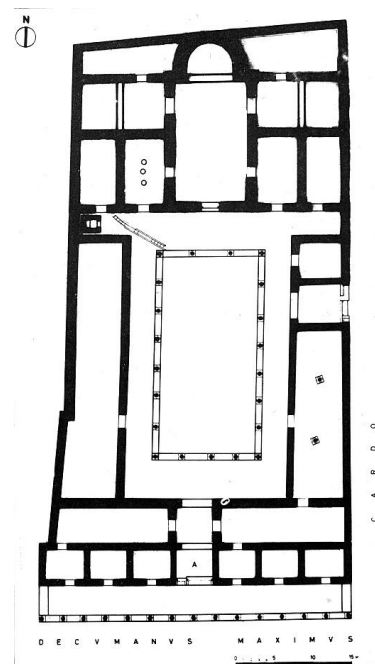


Fig.141. Abritus: Detail of peristyle building.

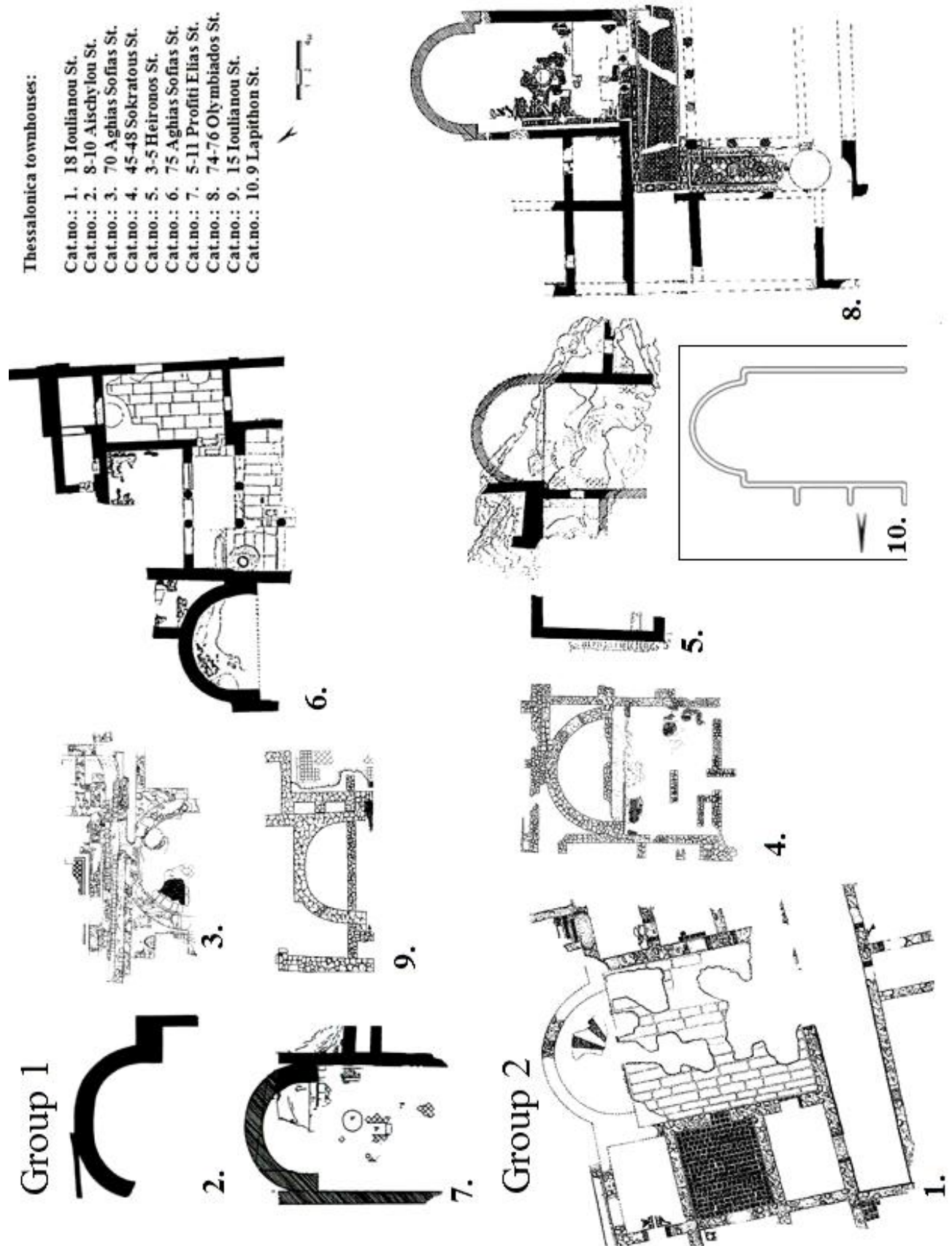


Fig.142. Thessalonica, houses 1-10. Plans to scale.

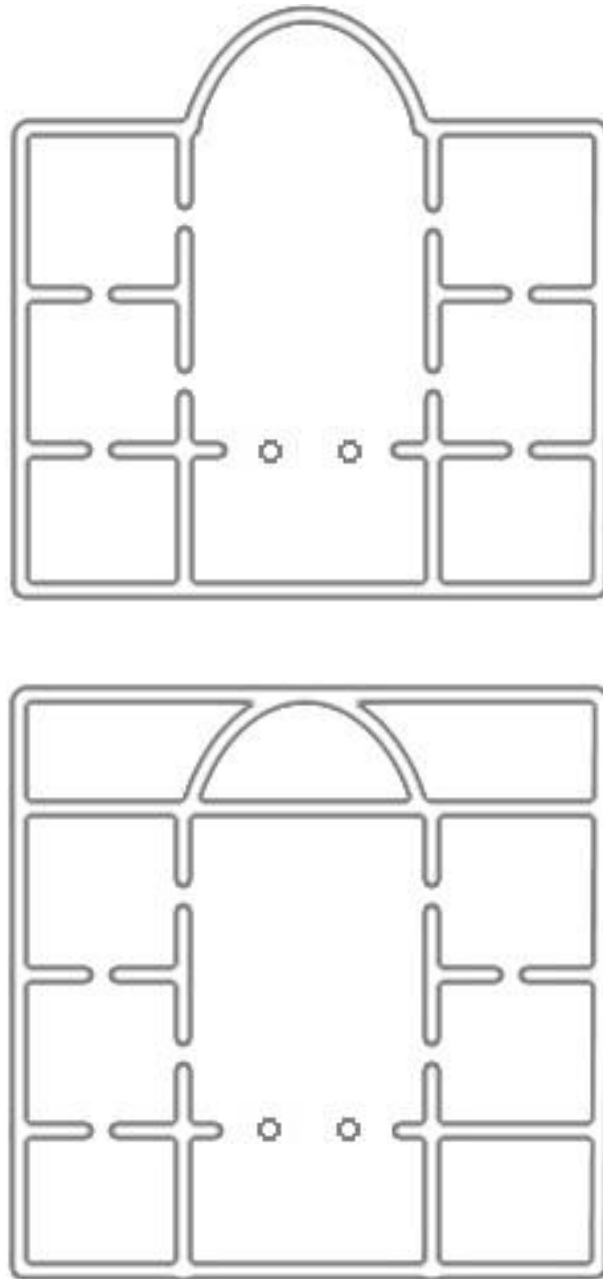


Fig.143(a-b). Theoretical house plan-types, apse projecting or included within outer wall of rectangle.

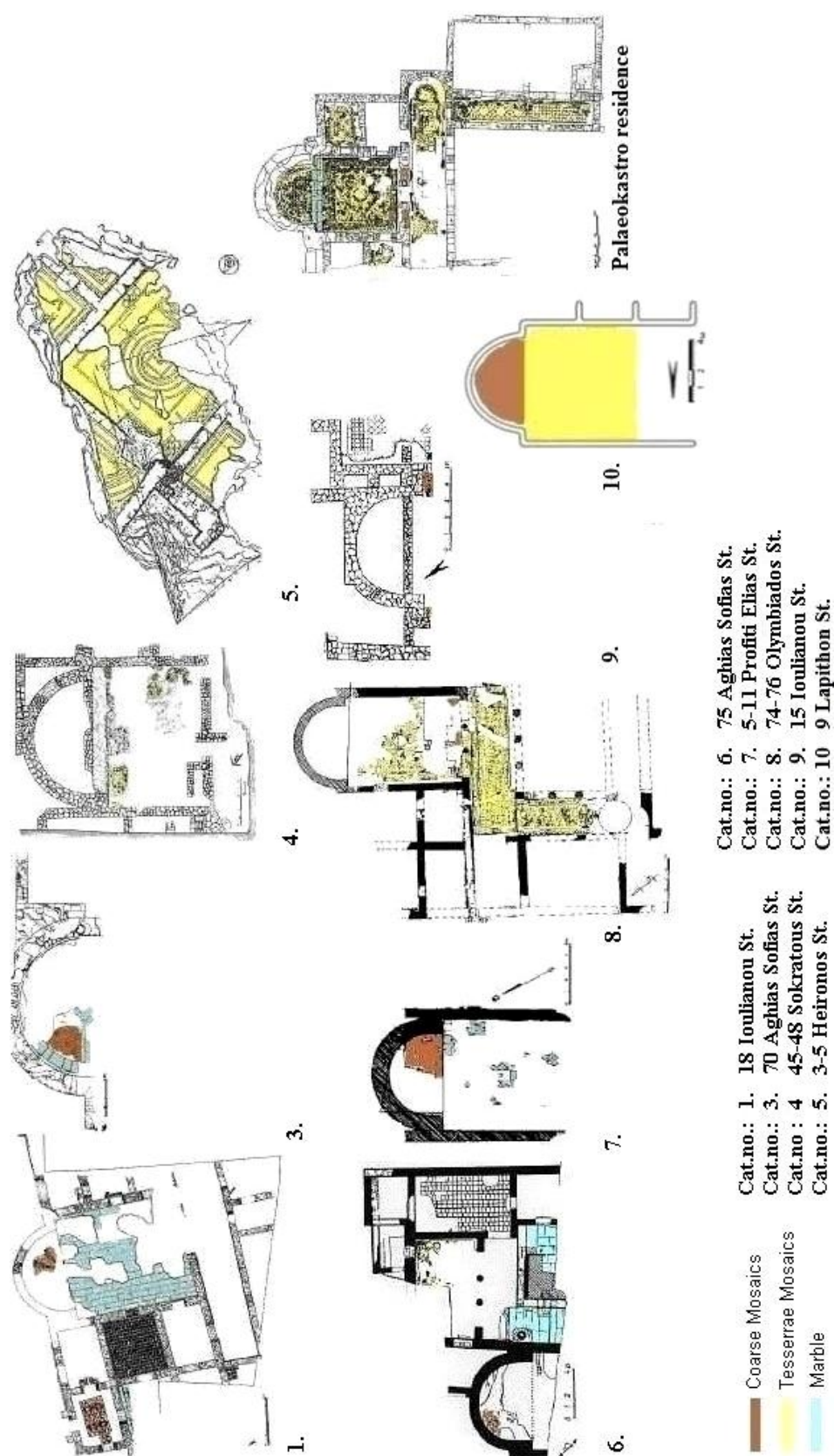


Fig.144. Thessalonica, houses I-10, flooring types.

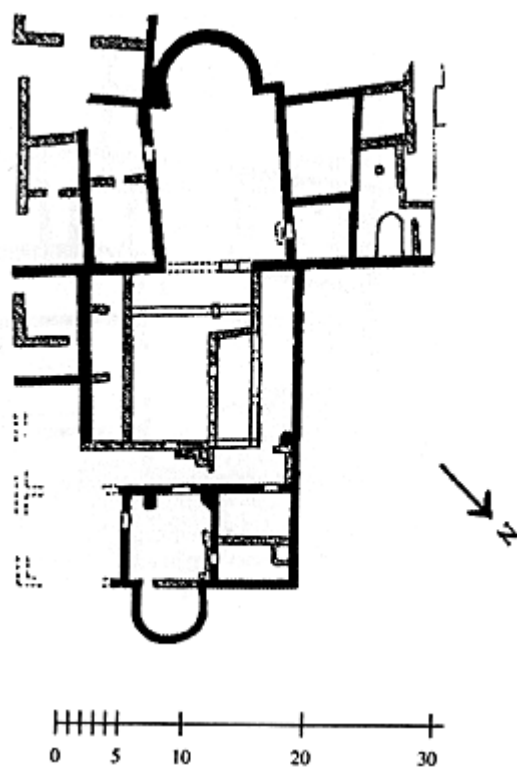


Fig.146. Stobi (FYROM): Townhouse.

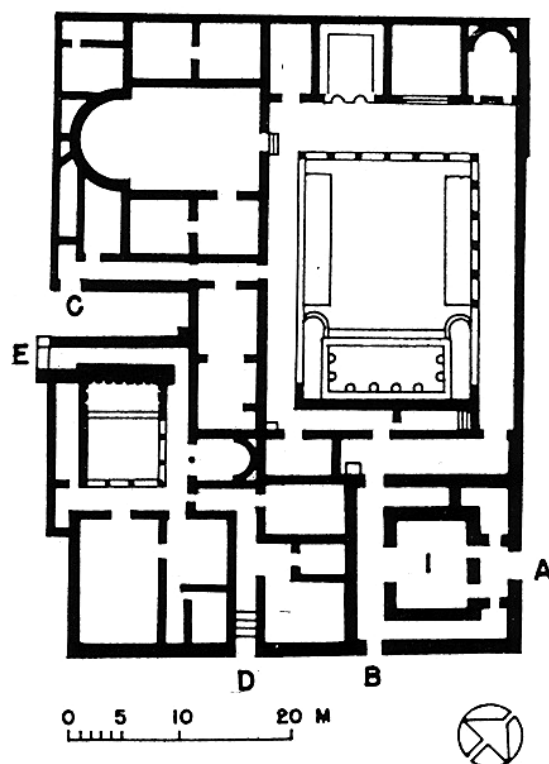


Fig.147. Stobi: 'Theodosian Palace'.

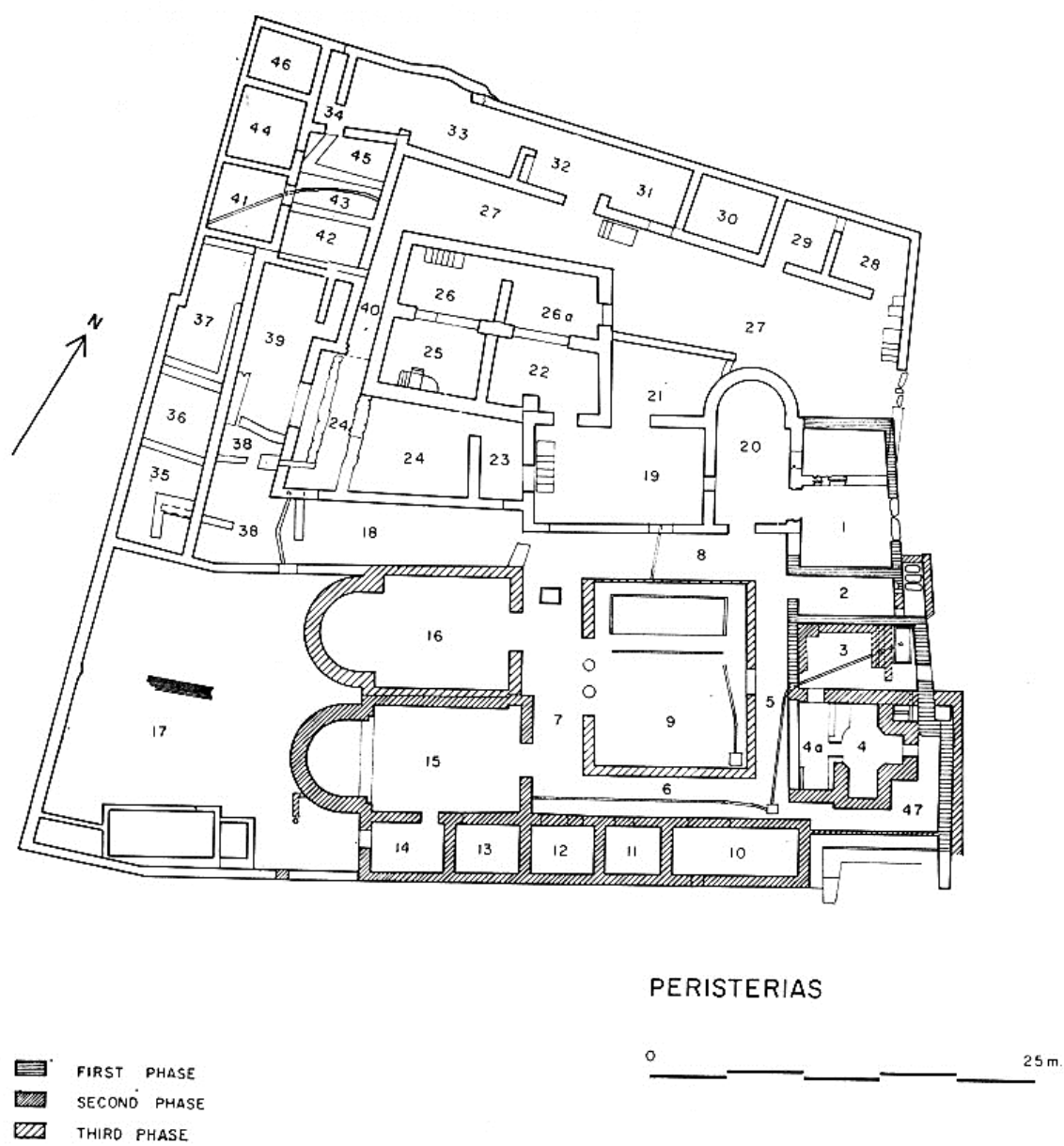


Fig.148. Stobi: House of Peristerias.

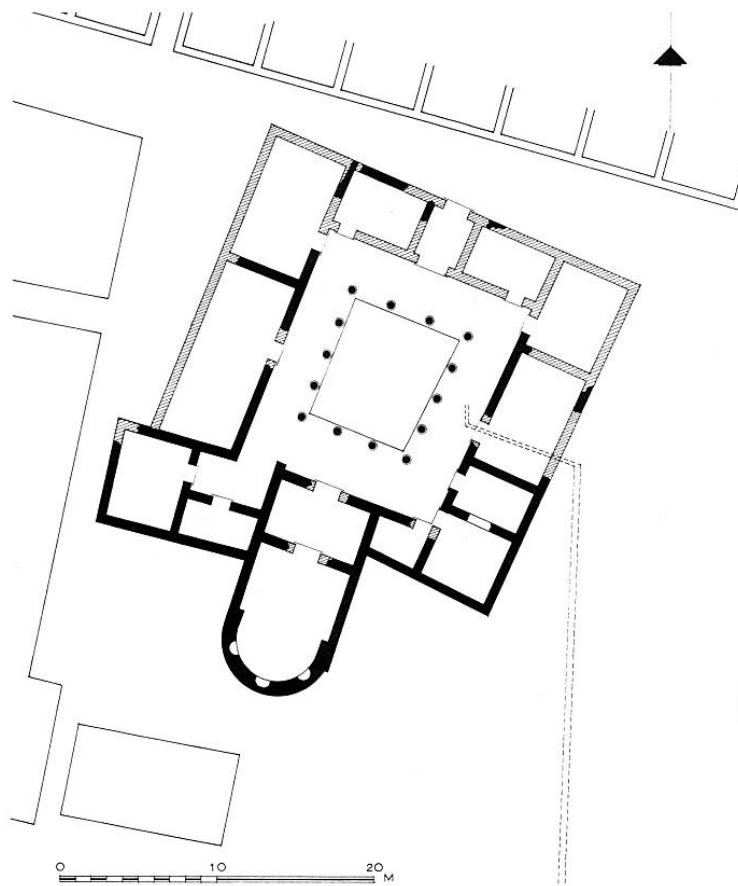


Fig.149. Athens: Areopagus House A.



Fig.150. Athens: Areopagus House B.

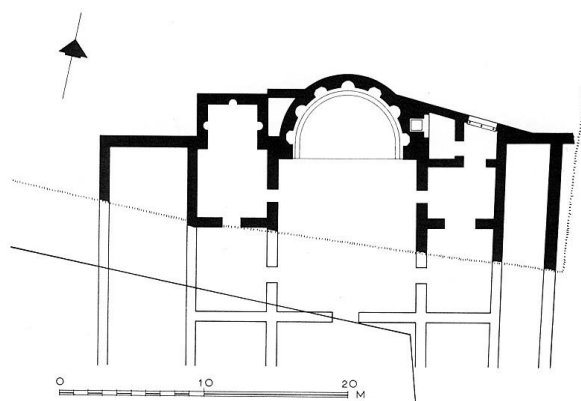


Fig.151. Athens: House of Proclus.

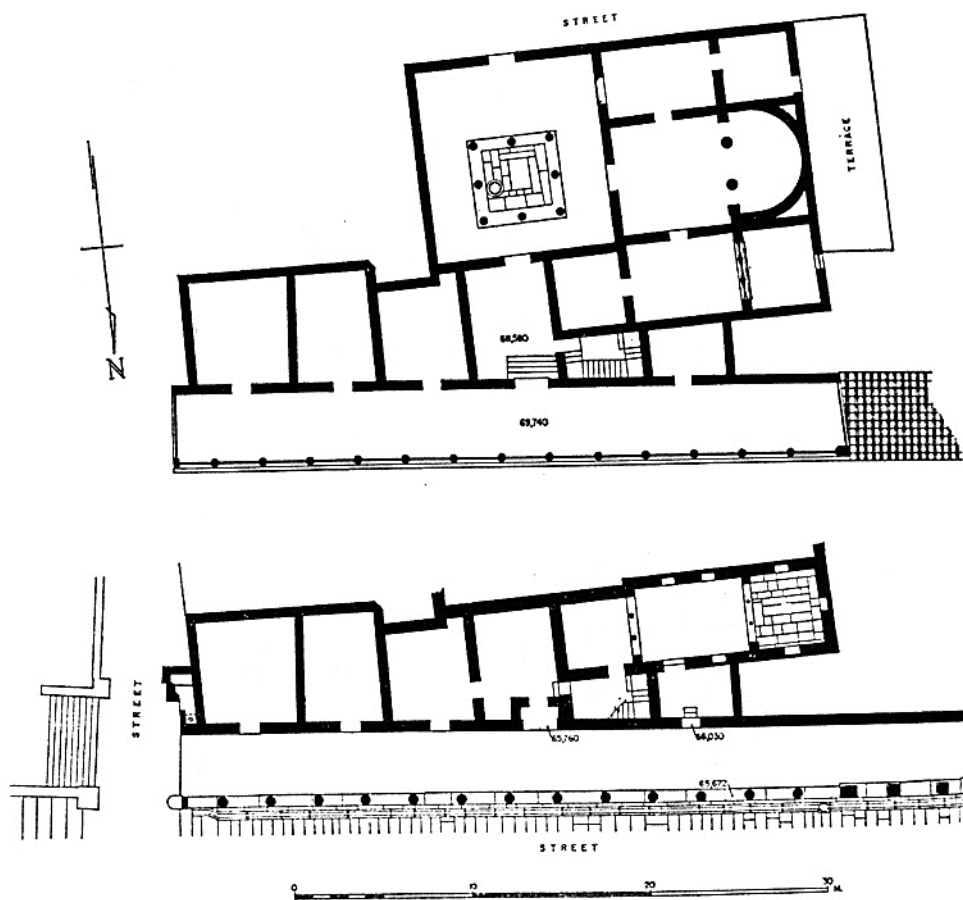


Fig.152. Athens: House of Pantainos.

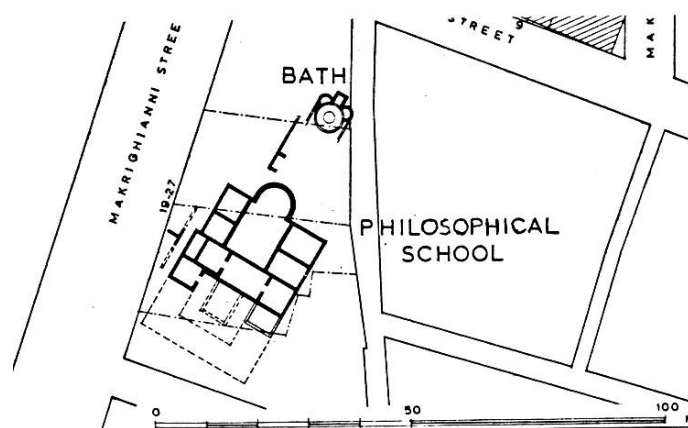


Fig.153. Athens: House on Makriyanni St.

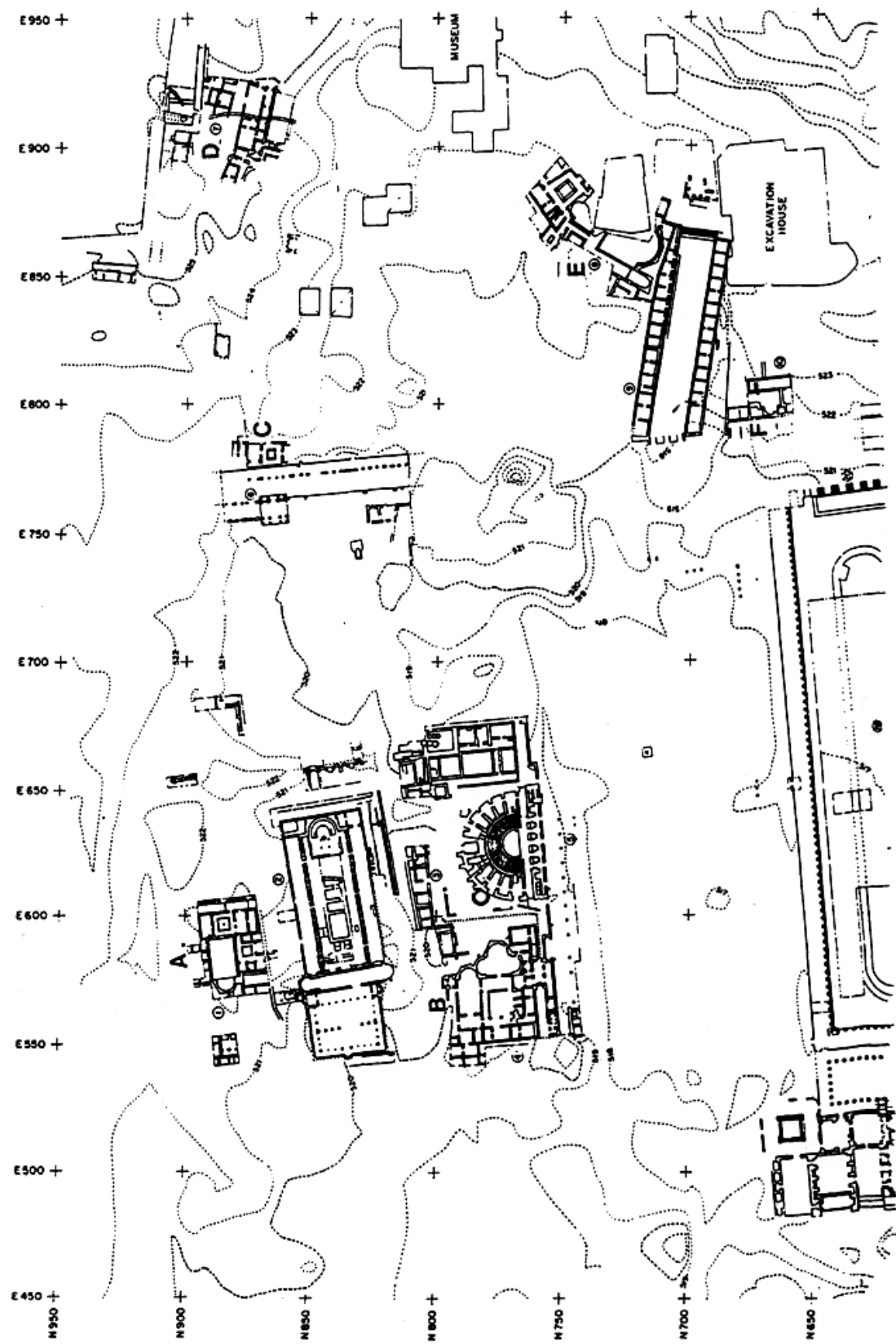


Fig.154. Aphrodisias: General plan.

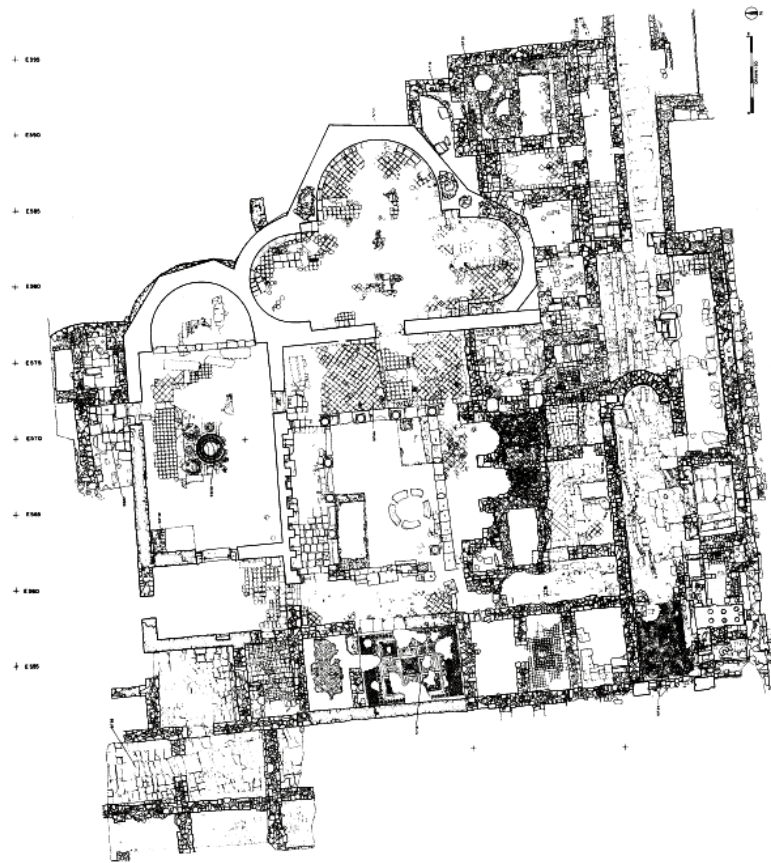


Fig.155. Aphrodisias: Bishop's Palace.

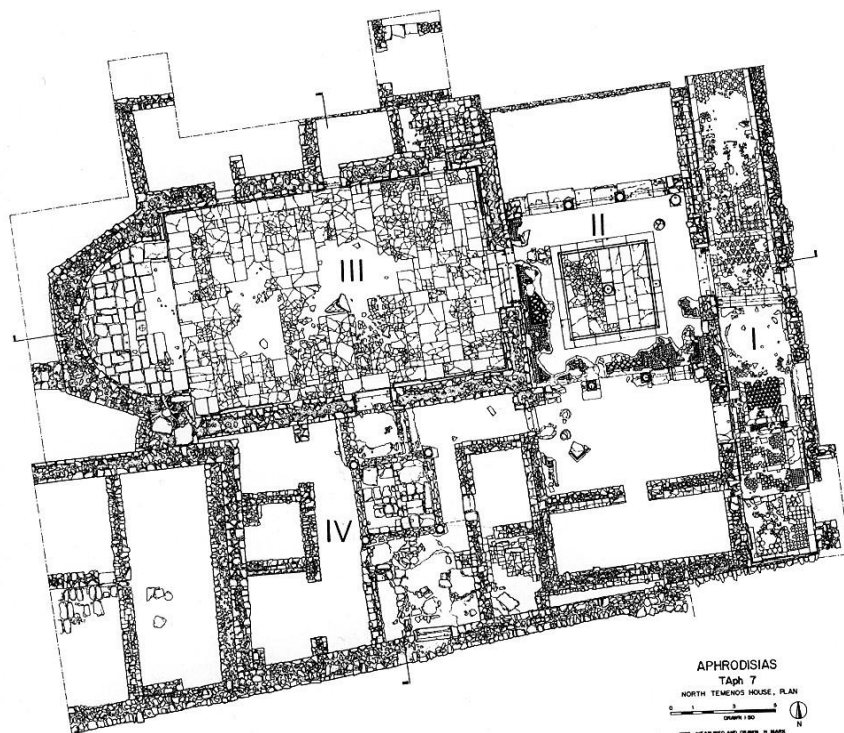


Fig.156. Aphrodisias: North Temenos House.



Fig.157. Apollonia (Cyrenaica): The so-called 'Palace of the Dux'.

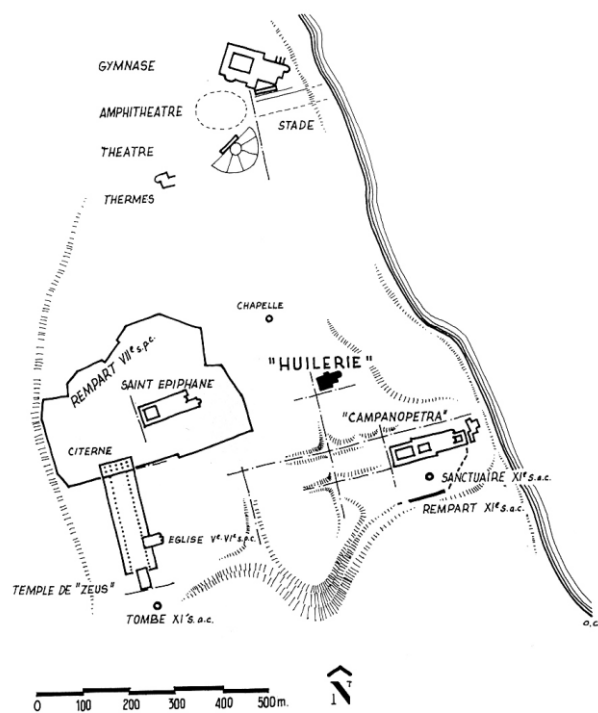


Fig.158. Salamis, Cyprus: Site plan.

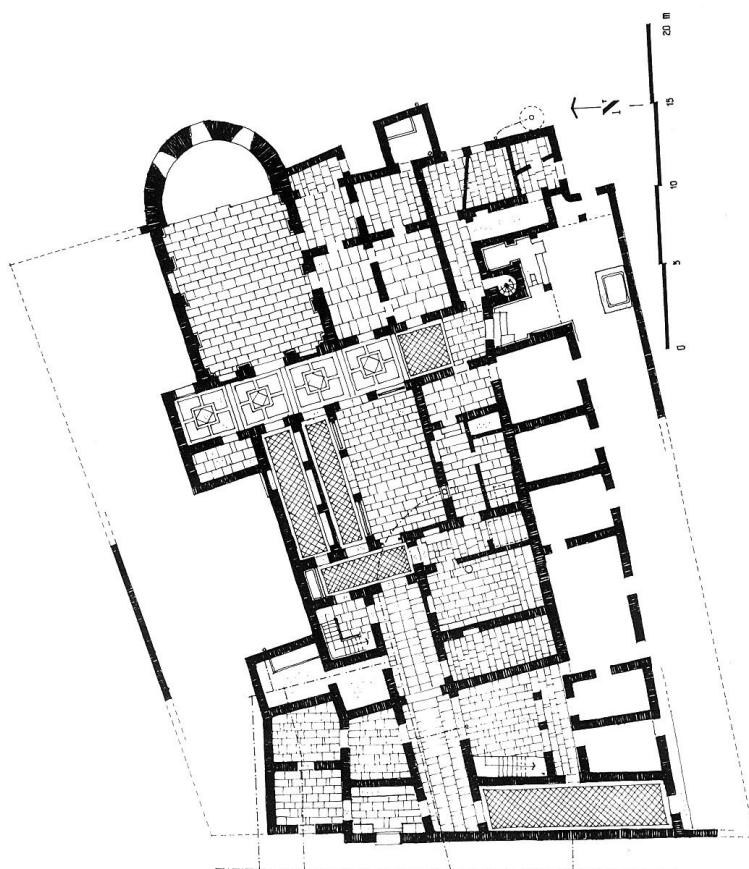


Fig.159. Salamis, Cyprus: 'L'Huilerie', plan.

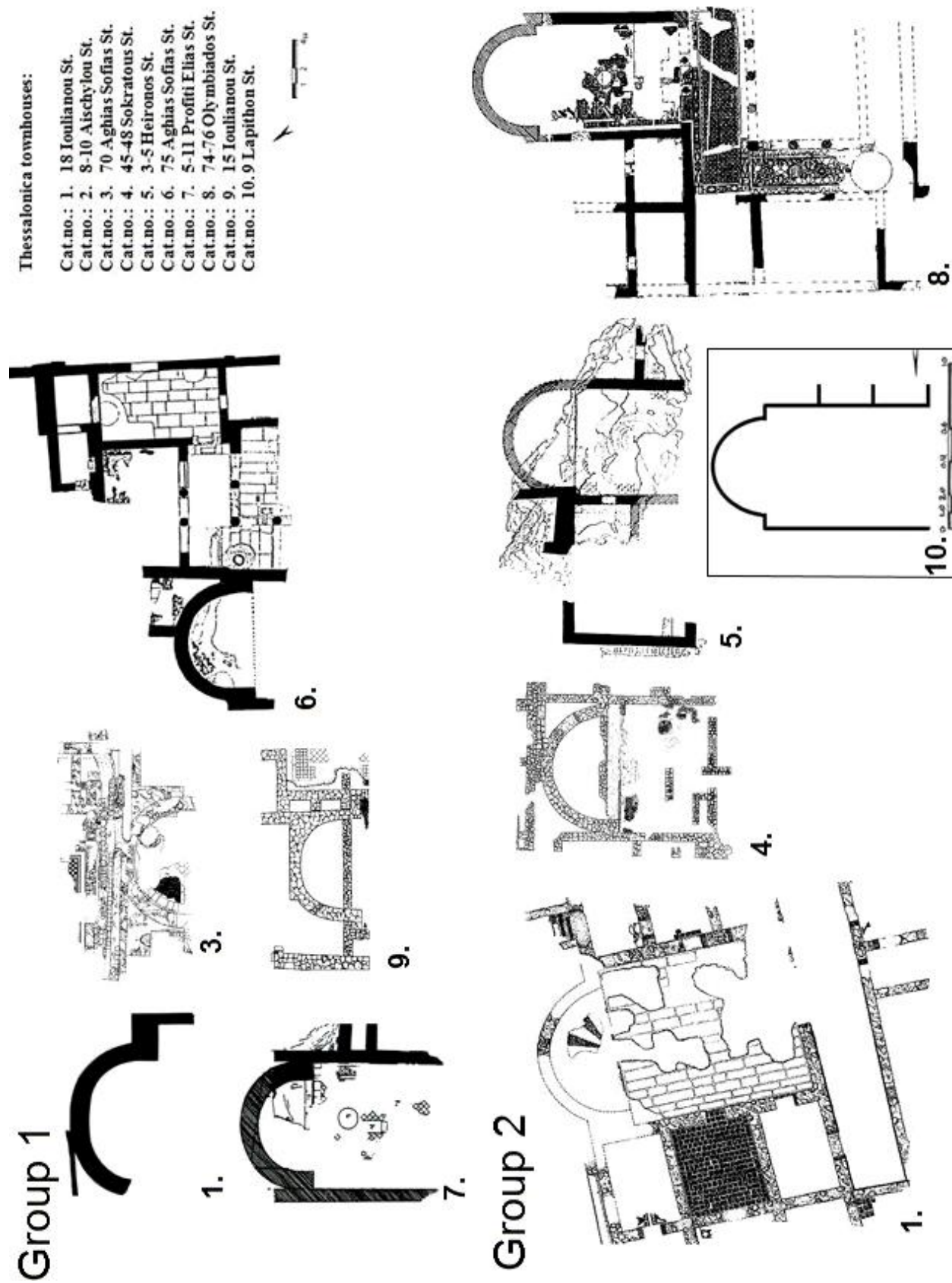


Fig.160. Thessalonica, Houses 1-10, organised in two groups.

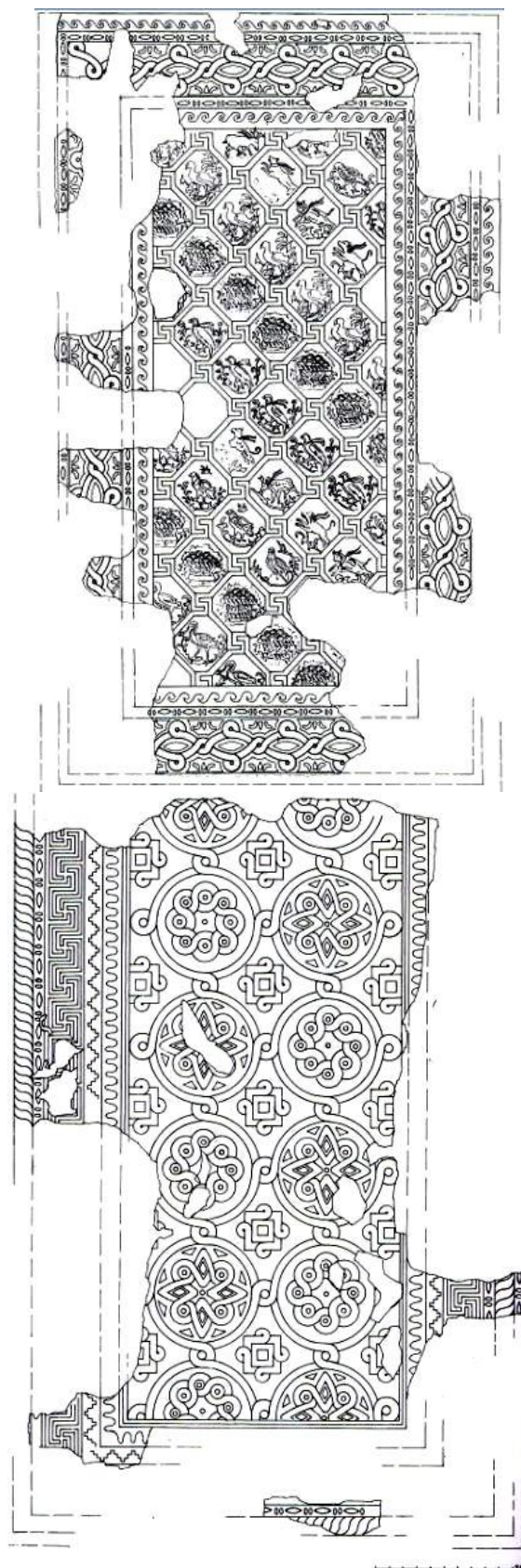


Fig.161(a-b). Building north of the Evangelistria cemetery (possible date: 1st half of the 6th c.): mosaic floor, south panel (top), north panel (bottom).

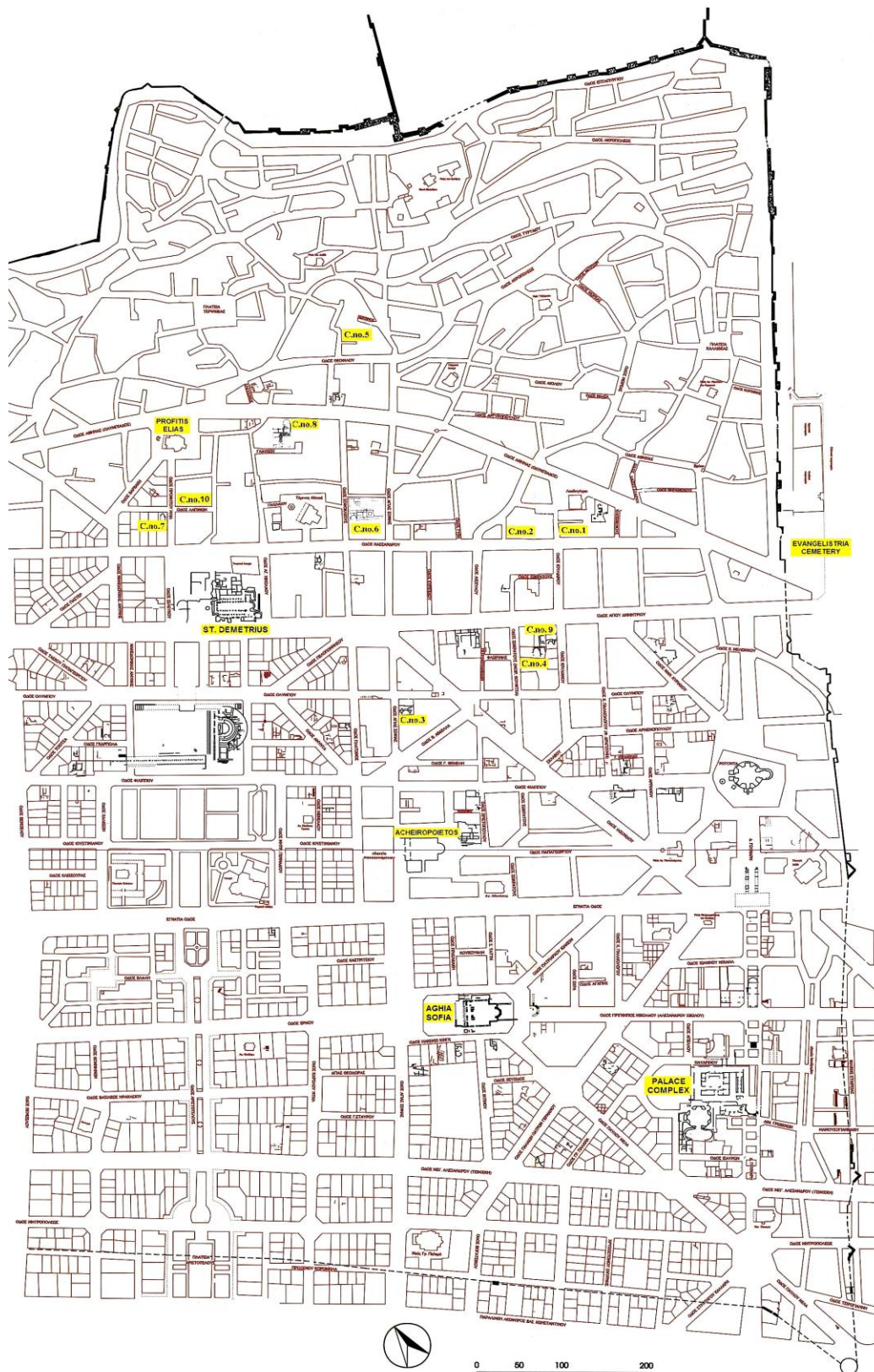


Fig.162. Panorama, Church (of unknown saint, possible date: 2nd half of the 5th century), South aisle.

Appendix

CATALOGUE OF TOWN HOUSES WITH APSIDAL HALLS

For locations see eastern sector city map below (numbers indicate location of town houses).



1. House with apsidal hall (fig.1a)

1.1 Location: 30 (ex-18) Ioulianou Street.

1.2. Date of excavations: A brief excavation took place in 1971 by M. Siganidou. Another very brief excavation was conducted by Th.Papazotos before the construction of a modern building block in 1980. Parts of the same complex were excavated by Ch. Mavropoulou-Tsioumi at the neighbouring plot in 1982 just before the erection of a second building block.

1.3 Bibliography:

Siganidou 1971:385-7.
 Kourkoutidou-Nikolaidou 1980:382.
 Mavropoulou-Tsioumi, *et al.* 1982:290-1.
 Karydas 1996:572.
 Assimakopoulou-Atzaka 1998:133, 137, 171, 223, 233-4.
 Vitti 1996:239.
 Bonini 2006:506-7.

1.4 Construction: No information on materials or constructional technique. The architectural plan of the residence does not follow strictly the grid plan of the city. Karydas calculated that the size of the excavated area is approximately 800m² but the total size of the complex could have reached 1,500m².

1.5 Dating: The four rooms (A – Δ) on the northwest side of the complex belong to an earlier (undated) Roman house, which then became part of the early 5th century house (Mavropoulou-Tsioumi *et al.* 1982:290). Two phases were also identified in the long corridor Δ on the south side of the main hall. Pottery and amphorae of the ‘early Christian’ period (no specific date is given) were found in room Π (Mavropoulou-Tsioumi *et al.* 1982:291). The pottery assemblage from rooms A-Δ suggests parts of the building continued in use until the 10th century.

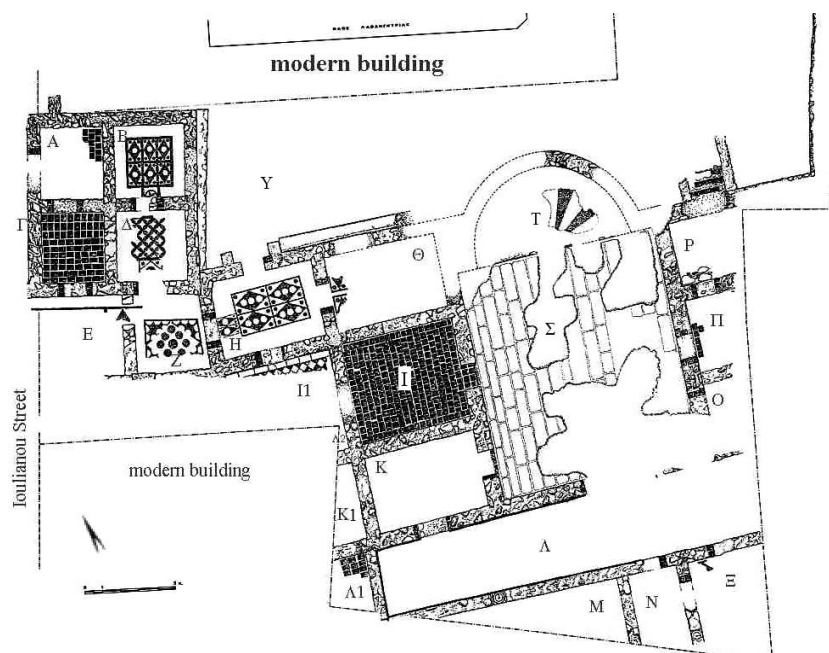


Fig.1a. House 1, plan with added lettering.

1.6 Apsidal Hall

a. Orientation: Facing South.

b. Apse (T): Cord 8.70m. (c.30 Roman feet).

floor: Coarse mosaic forming a radiate pattern (Atzaka 1998:297).

Step down to hall is noted but no dimension given.

c. Hall (Σ): L: 12.40, W: 11m.

floor: Marble slabs indicated by their imprints on the underlying cement. 14 rectangles of different sizes, laid in parallel rows lengthways (dimensions scaled off from plan vary between 1.8x0.6m and 2.2x0.6m.). Traces of an earlier mosaic floor underneath (Mavropoulou-Tsioumi *et al.* 1982:291, no further details).

walls: No details reported.

1.7 Associated Space: The hall was entered on the south side (form of doorway unclear) from a long rectangular corridor (Λ), which had possibly belonged to a peristyle court (Mavropoulou-Tsioumi *et al.* 1982:291). A column base built into its south wall, suggests that in an earlier phase the corridor was an open stoa. In the later phase, after the colonnade was walled up, the walls were frescoed showing a portico, between which the spaces were filled with panels bearing geometric motifs (Mavropoulou-Tsioumi *et al.* 1982:291). The function of the spaces **M**, **N**, **Ξ** defined by the walls at right angles on the south side of the corridor is unknown (similar to 8). The narrower space **N**, with a door on the east side, could represent a corridor and the other two being open spaces within a larger court.

On the east side of the hall the first room **O** has a door to the hall, but is too fragmentary to tell whether it communicated also with the corridor (as **K** opposite). The second room (**II**), with a narrow door (c.1.10m.) was floored at a lower level than the hall and was full of early Christian amphorae, suggesting it was used as a storage room. Although none of the reports mentions the type of floor for **O**, the available plan indicates a tile floor similar to **I**. The third room **P** had no door to the hall but was connected to **II** by a narrow door, and also has a door on its north side, outside which a stair leads up to the level of the garden **Y**. Both rooms could thus have formed a basement store.

On the west side of the hall, room **K** communicated with both the hall and the south corridor, but had only a floor of compacted earth. A large amount of pottery (no precise date given) was found in this area. The next room to the north **I** communicates with the apsidal hall (doorway width ca.1.40m.) but seemingly not with **K** and was floored with terracotta tiles, some of which bear initials C, I and Δ (Mavropoulou-Tsioumi *et al.* 1982:290). This type of flooring was not included in Atzaka's study and is of unknown date (but similar floors are found in **Γ** and **Λ1**). There are traces of a door in the north wall of **I**, communicating with the third room in line **Θ**, and the hole in west wall, beside a possible door jamb could indicate it was also linked to room **II**, which would make room **K** an anteroom to both.

Room **Θ** was badly disturbed by modern drains, but – like its counterpart opposite (**P**) – does not appear to have communicated directly with the main hall, only indirectly via room **H**. Fragments of a mosaic floor preserved in front of the door in its west wall bear the same pattern of rectangles containing a diamond with a white a circle or a plain black diamond as in rooms **H** and **B** (see fig.1b).

1.8 Other adjacent rooms (fig.1b): Room **I** opened to the west to room **II** (only partially excavated), which was probably one of the most luxurious rooms of the residence. Its floor was covered with a chequerboard design in marble laid over an earlier mosaic floor. Parts of the earlier mosaic contain a succession of square and rectangular panels (Mavropoulou-Tsioumi *et al.* 1982:290; Atzaka 1998:234, figs 114-5). The square panels were decorated with chequerboard, squares in perspective, cross-shaped items and a rosette. The rectangles are decorated with diamonds that contain a plain circle, a Solomon knot, a circle that is divided into four sections or forming heart-shaped leaves.

Room **Θ** and room **II** both had doors to **H**, which in its turn had a door to the garden **Υ** (framed on the outside by pilasters), and also to the irregularly shaped room **Z**. The floor of **H** is in coarse mosaic, with small carpet panel in the centre, formed of big rectangles containing four diamonds, in which three circles. Room **Z** had four doors, linking it to another room to the west (**E**), floored with marble slabs, and to a further suite of four cubicles (**A** – **Δ**), probably adapted from an earlier Roman house which was incorporated into the later residence (Mavropoulou-Tsioumi *et al.* 1982:290). Measuring only c.3.60 x 3.30m., rooms **A** and **Γ** have floors of terracotta slabs, whereas rooms **B** and **Δ** (figs 1b and 1c) were decorated with a coarse mosaic; rectangles, diamonds with circles in room **B** (fig.1d) intersecting circles forming quatrefoil in room **Δ**. In room **A** fragmentary frescoes depicting columns, capitals and entablatures have survived. This was the area where the fragment of a statuette (lower leg) of Roman date was revealed along with pottery dating up to the 10th century.

The pattern of the coarse mosaic floor in room **Z** is a large rectangle, which contains a white diamond with black coloured circles (fig.1b). The door from **Z** to room **H** was later blocked, as was the door to **E** (with a wall of mud brick).

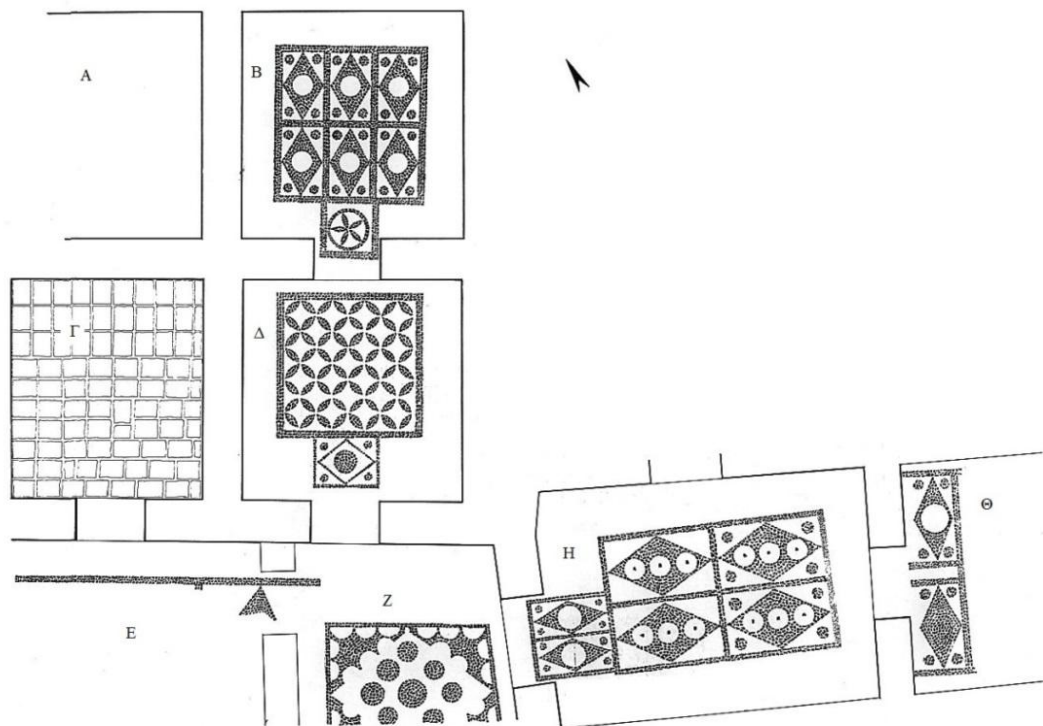


Fig.1b. House 1 mosaic floors in rooms A-H.



Fig.1c. House (1) rooms B-Δ.

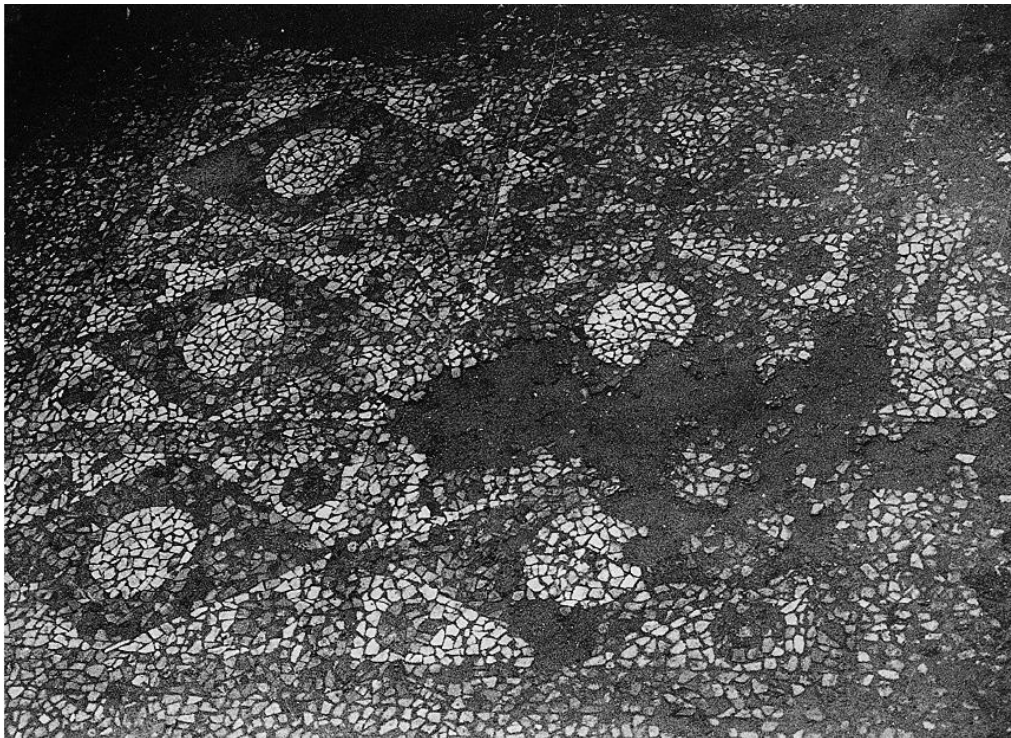


Fig.1d. House (1) detail of floor in room B.

2. Fragment of an apsidal hall (Fig.2a)

2.1 Location: 8-10 Aischylou Street.

2.2 Date of excavation: 1964 but not published. Little information included within general context on excavation work by Makropoulou-Tzitzibasi in 1993.

2.3 Bibliography:

Makropoulou.-Tzitzibasi 1993:355, n.2.

Karydas 1996:579.

Asimakopoulou-Atzaka 1998:234, n.150.

Bonini 2006:521.

2.4 Construction: The apse of the apsidal hall was built with strong walls, suggesting a vault (fig.2a).

2.5 Dating: The excavators, D. Makropoulou and A. Tzitzibasi, dated the complex to the 4th century (Karydas 1996:579).

2.6 Apsidal Hall:

a. Orientation: Facing South-west.

b. Apse: Cord of apse: 8.75m. (reconstructed) (c.30 Roman feet).

No further information is available

2.7 Associated Space: Fragments of hexagonal marble tiles followed by square ones were found east of the apsidal according to the report of the supervisor of the Byzantine antiquities dated on the 27th March 1964 (αρχείο εγγράφων 9^{ης} ΕΒΑ, έκθεση του επιμελητή κ. Μιχαηλίδη) as stated by Atzaka (1998:234).

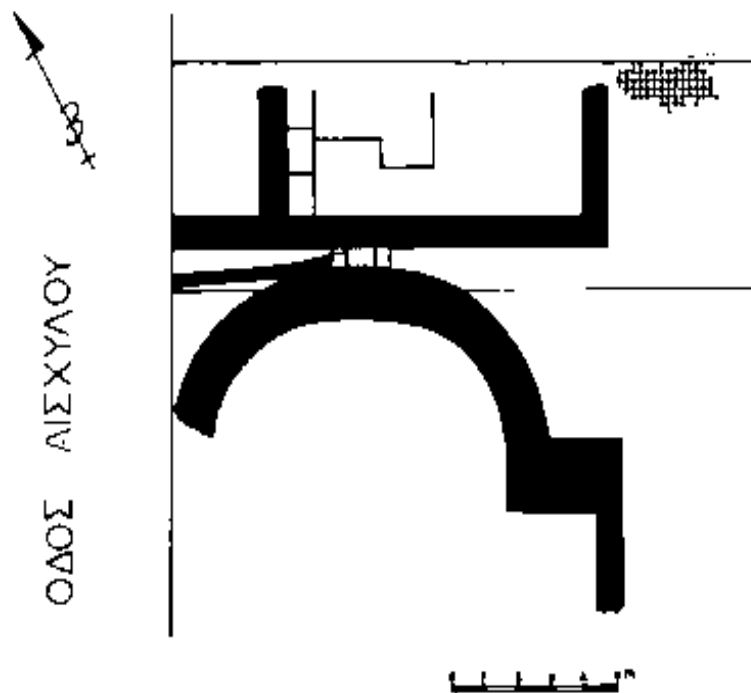


Fig.2a. House (2), plan.

3 Fragmentary apsidal hall (fig.3a)

3.1 Location: 70 Aghias Sofias Street, 1m. below modern ground level, 23.42m. above sea level.

3.2. Date of excavation: 1977.

3.3 Bibliography:

Romiopoulou 1977:195-7.
 Vitti 1996:192.
 Karydas 1996:577.
 Atzaka 1998:65, 213, 275, n.281.
 Bonini 2006:517.

3.4 Construction: The wall of the apse is *c.*1m. thick and its highest surviving point reaches 1.62m. from its foundation, but no details of its construction are reported. It was founded on the natural bedrock, which slopes towards the sea (south).

3.5 Dating: Romiopoulou proposed a date in the 4th century but with no explanation. Scant pottery finds were of late Hellenistic/Roman period (Vitti, pp.192).

3.6 Apsidal Hall:

a. Orientation: Facing South-west.

b. Apse: Cord 7.50m. (*c.*25 Roman feet).

floor: A border 0.40 m wide of alternating wide and narrow slabs in white and grey marble was laid round the curve of the apse; a line of narrow rectangular slabs in white marble (0.80 x 0.22 m) ran across the cord, on either side of which were remnants of a chequerboard pattern in small squares of white and grey marble. Romiopoulou reported that the rest of the floor was covered by square slabs of white and grey marble (0.40 x 0.40m), but the published plan actually shows traces of a coarse mosaic bearing a diamond shape containing a circle (as pointed out by Atzaka 1998:275). The plan also indicates a section which has not been published. The position of shoulder of the apse on the left, and the prolongation of the inner profile on the right suggest that the marble border and chequerboard pattern on south side of it are a band behind the step, not the step and the hall.

walls: Romiopoulou reports marble veneer.

c. Hall: Only the NW shoulder excavated. Karydas (1996) estimated a possible width of *c.*9.50m.

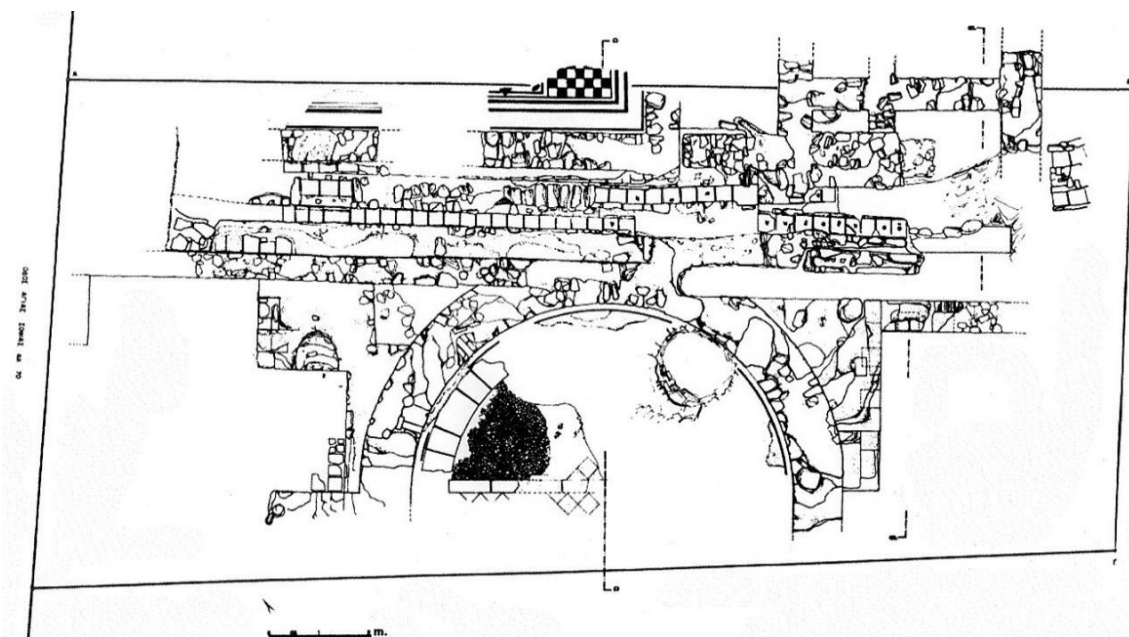


Fig.3a. House (3), plan of apse.

4 House with apsidal hall (Figs 4a, 4b)

4.1 Location: Bounded by 45-48 Sokratous Street (modern 15-17 M. Koufitsa and 123 Aghiou Demetriou Streets), 124 Agiou Demetriou Street and 15 Ioulianou Street. It is located very close (approximately 138m.) and south of one of the main districts of Roman Thessalonica, which is known today as Kassandrou Street. It was also located approximately 370m. north of the main axis of the city, the via Egnatia. A second smaller apsidal hall on the side towards Sokratous Street was also excavated (see below, no.9).

4.2 Date of excavation: During the clearance of a large plot for a new building block in 1971, excavations by M. Siganidou brought to light parts of two residences (nos 4 and 9). Findings were recorded briefly and parts of both structures were kept within the basements of the erected buildings.

4.3 Bibliography:

Siganidou 1971:390.
Makropoulou-Tzitzibasi 1993:355, n.2.
Karydas 1996:579.
Vitti 1996:237, no.123.
Asimakopoulou-Atzaka 1998:141, 249-250, 319, 320, n.450, 353.
Bonini 2006:520.

4.4 Construction: Not recorded.

4.5 Dating: Siganidou (1971) dated the complex to the 'Roman period'; Atzaka (1998:250) on the evidence of the floors, dated the building's second phase to the first half of the 5th century.

4.6 Apsidal Hall:

a. Orientation: Facing South-west.

b. Apse: Cord 7.50m. (c.25 Roman feet).

floor: None preserved. A gutter (ποταμός), 1m. wide, was revealed, which preserved on one of its edges *in situ* fragments of white marble and traces of a 5th century mosaic (see below and fig.4f).

walls: Not known (nothing survives above floor level).

c. Hall: Preserved length 8m (max), W: 9.40 m.

floor: two phases of flooring were identified, the first of small re-used fragments of veneer (3-4 cm.) with some larger pieces (8-12 cm.) which Atzaka (1998:320, n.450) placed in the 4th century. Over this, on top of a layer of debris some 20-30 cm. thick lay a new mosaic floor, largely destroyed, but composed of geometric and simple floral patterns in white, black, dark red, red and yellow. The geometric motifs include swastikas, squares and triangles, meander with the rainbow technique (similar to the one in the 'Galerian' palace NP North corridor and the Basilica, see Ch.III figs 59, 78 and 96), a guilloche and big circles with a 1m. diameter contained within large squares. Inside the circles as per Atzaka's (1998:250) description, are intersecting circles decorated with Solomon knots, clover leaves and other floral decoration. Fragments of a panel of intersecting circles forming quatrefoils survived next to the circles. Close to the south corner of the room appeared a wide border filled

with a key-shaped meander (figs 4c-e, 4f-g). Part of this second phase mosaic also covered the gutter in the apse. The above mosaics have been dated to the 1st half of the 5th century (Siganiidou 1971:390, 393; Atzaka 1998:250).

walls: Not known (nothing survives above floor level).

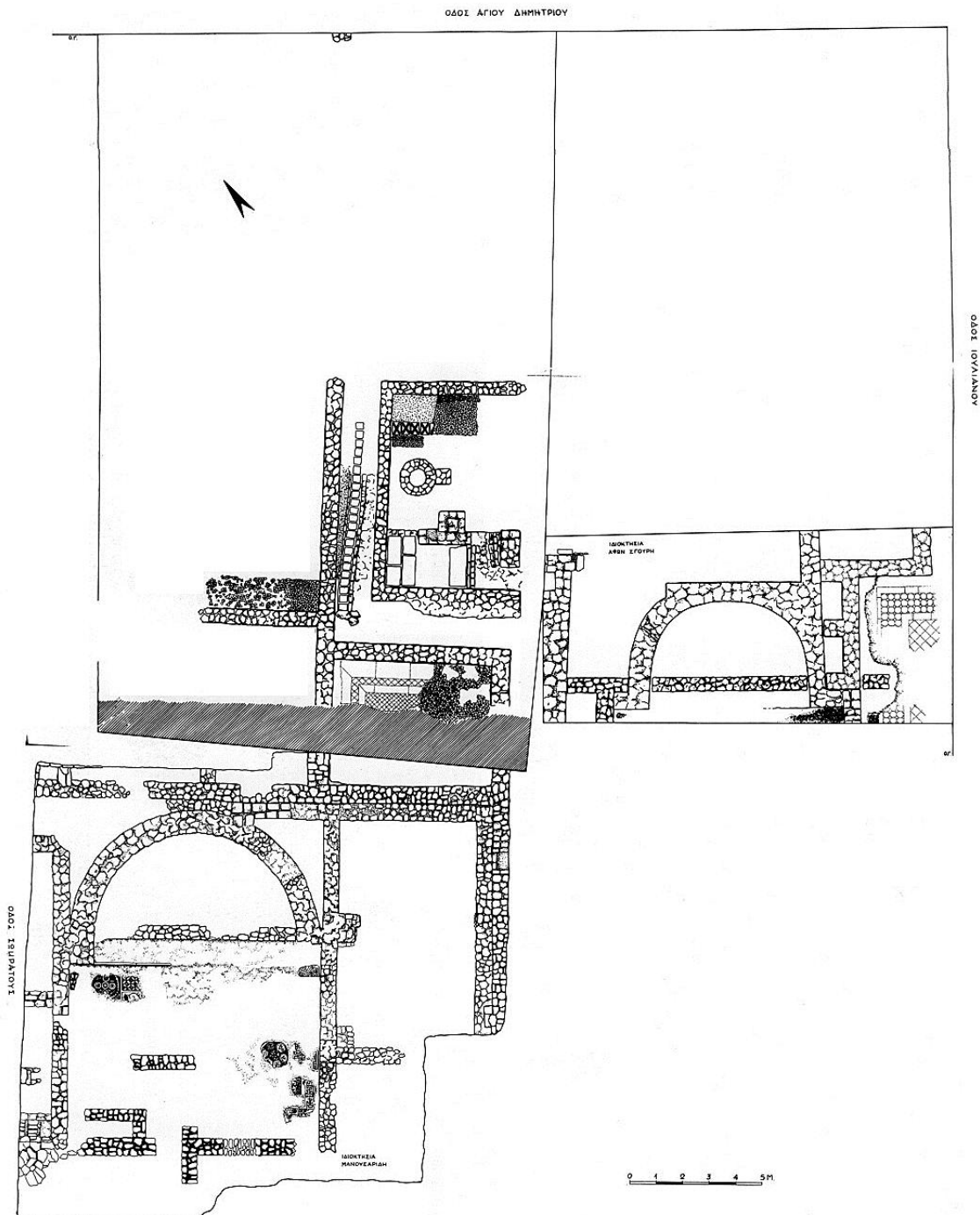


Fig.4a. Apsidal hall of (4) and apse of (9).

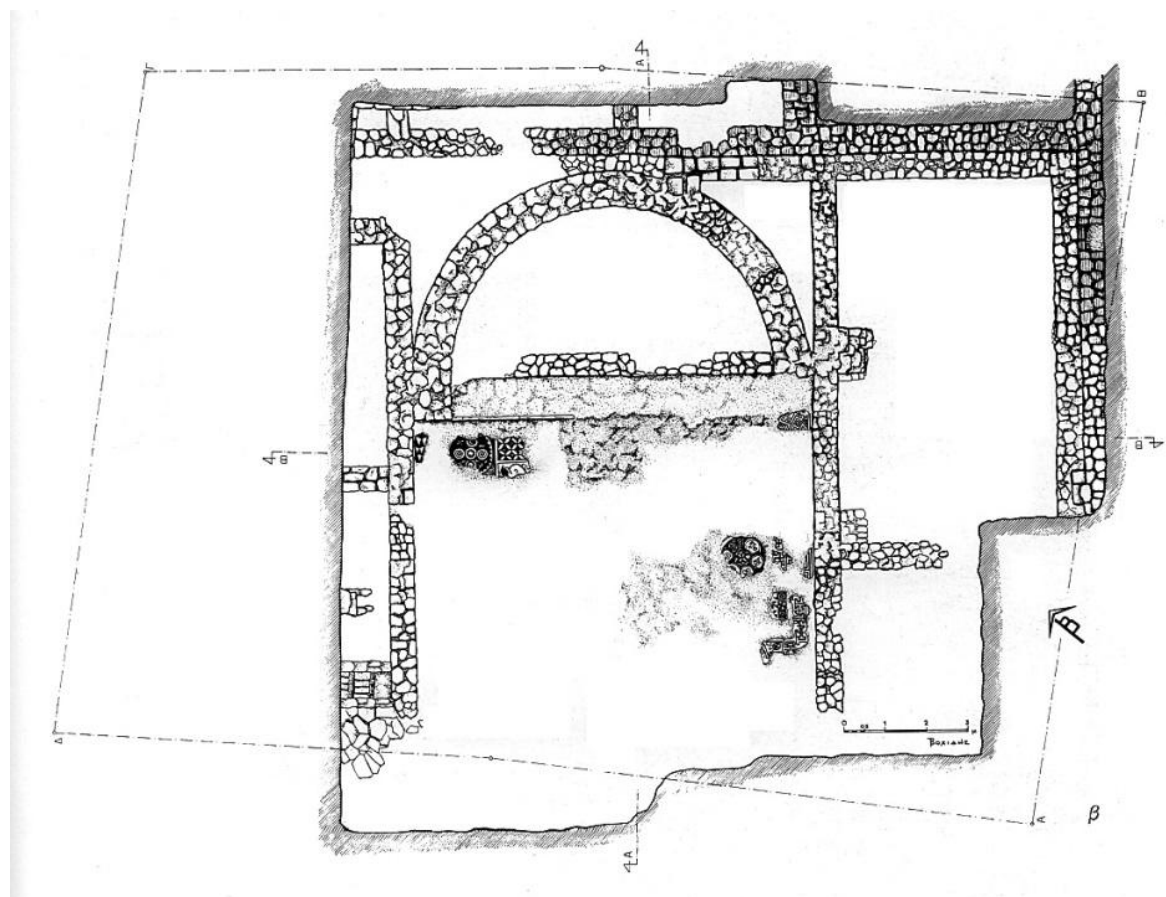


Fig.4b. House (4) plan (with earlier walls removed).

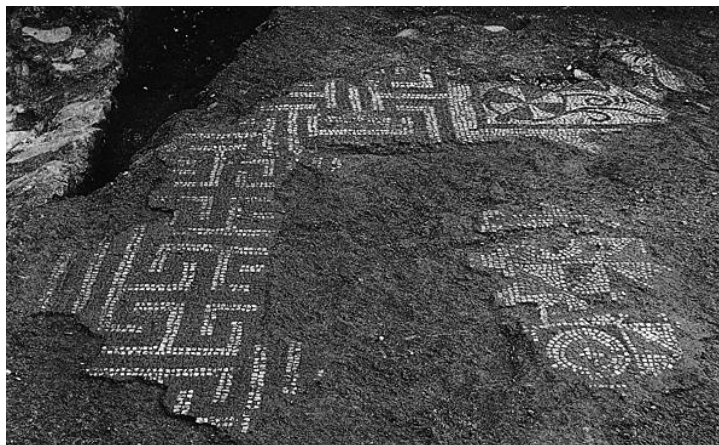


Fig.4c. House (4), hall floor, details of 5th century mosaics.



Fig.4d. House (4), hall floor, details of 5th century mosaics.



Fig.4e. House (4), hall floor, details of 5th century mosaics.



Fig.4f. House (4), the two phases of flooring in the hall.



Fig.4g. House (4), the two phases of flooring in the hall.



Fig.4h. House (4), the two phases of flooring in the hall.

4.7 Associated Space: the plan suggests a suite of three smaller rooms on the east and two on the west of the apsidal hall.

5. House with apsidal hall (figs 5a, 5b)

5.1 Location: 3-5 Heironos Street.

5.2 Date of excavation: Part of the apse with its mosaics dug in 1966 by Petsas. Rest areas of complex were found by D. Makropoulou in 1989 during the construction of a new building block. Mosaics were then extracted to be stored at the Archaeological Museum of Thessalonica.

5.3 Bibliography:

Petsas 1966:340, fig.362a.
 Siganiidou 1971:382, 387, plans 6,7 and fig.380c.
 Pelekanidis 1974:46, 86, 142, figs 3a, 14a, 52a, 58c.
 Mavropoulou-Tsioumi *et al.* 1982:290, fig.195b.
 Assimakopoulou-Atzaka 1987:48, 63, 142, figs 4ß, 6c, 57b, 225c-d.
 Makropoulou 1989a:257-270, plans 1-5, figs 1-12.
 Makropoulou 1989c:344.
 Karydas 1996:574.
 Assimakopoulou-Atzaka 1998:130-1, 133, 139, 143, 254-6, 324
 Bonini 2006:510-1.

5.4 Construction: The house was built on platforms as the ground is extremely rocky and steep in the upper parts of Thessalonica. The reports provide no information on the materials and techniques employed (photographic evidence is not available either).

5.5 Dating: When the mosaic floors were lifted, eight coins were found in the building foundations on the rocky ground, the latest dating AD 375-6, a date that agrees well with the style of the mosaics in the hall (see below). Makropoulou (1989a:265) dated the abandonment of the residence to the early 6th century by a small hoard of five copper coins found buried on a corner of room **A** (fig.5b). The residence was then used as a cemetery. The apse was reformed into a rectangular space that hosted a grave with orientation E-W. Another burial was revealed over the floor of the apse and a third one on the floor of room **E**.

5.6 Apsidal Hall:

a. Orientation: Almost due south.

b. Apse: Cord of apse is 7.85m.(c.27 Roman feet). The apse **B** was cut into the rock of the hillside and later contained within another rectangular structure. The apse is built on a 0.16m. higher step from the central room **A**.

floor: The floor of the apse **B** was decorated with an elaborate mosaic (figs 5c-d). The central panel of the apse is filled with a lozenge pattern in white, black and red colours bordered by a red and white coloured strip. The latter is surrounded by the following sections (figs 5c-d): a strip with red coloured triangles on a white background, a plain white section, a section with guilloche consisting of red and white strands and, finally, a larger section that contains black ivy stems with red leaves on a white background. Makropoulou (1989a:261) assigned the creation and construction of the mosaic floor of the apsidal to the work of the same craftsman who built the mosaic floor in the main room **A**. The tesserae used for the mosaics are made of both marble and terracotta. They were placed over a strong layer of waterproof mortar around 0.10m. thick and containing crushed pottery (Makropoulou 1989a:259).

walls: The foot of the wall of the apse has a socle of marble slabs (52-82 cm. long and 4 cm. high), similar to the Palaeokastro villa (Ch.IV, fig.127) and the edge of the step up to the apse is demarcated with two rows of marble slabs sized 40 x 40cm. (Makropoulou 1989a:258). Traces of white marble flakes were found fallen off the walls on the mosaic floor. Petsas (1966) mentions that the walls were possibly decorated with the *opus sectile* technique.

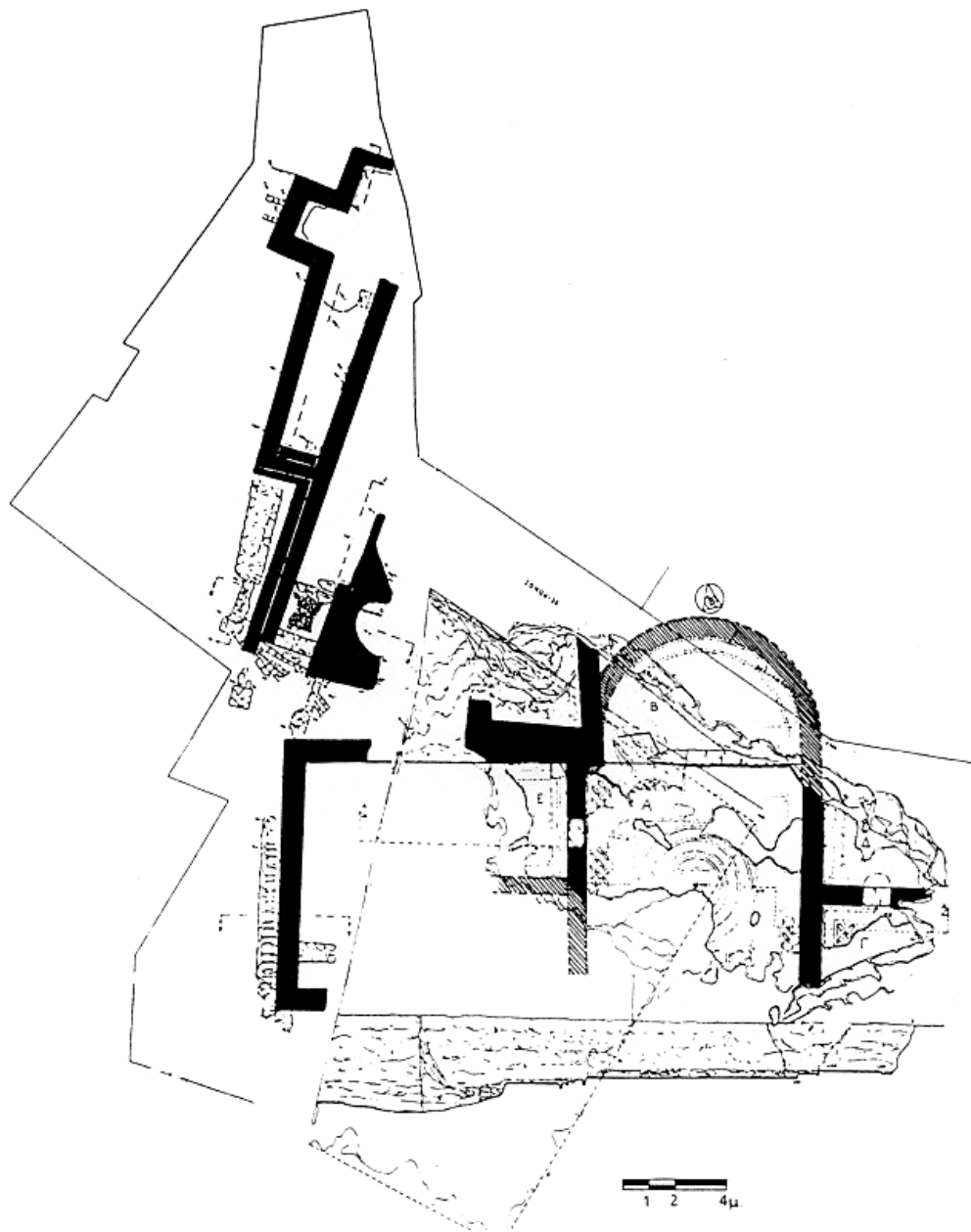


Fig.5a. House (5), reconstructed apsidal hall of (5).

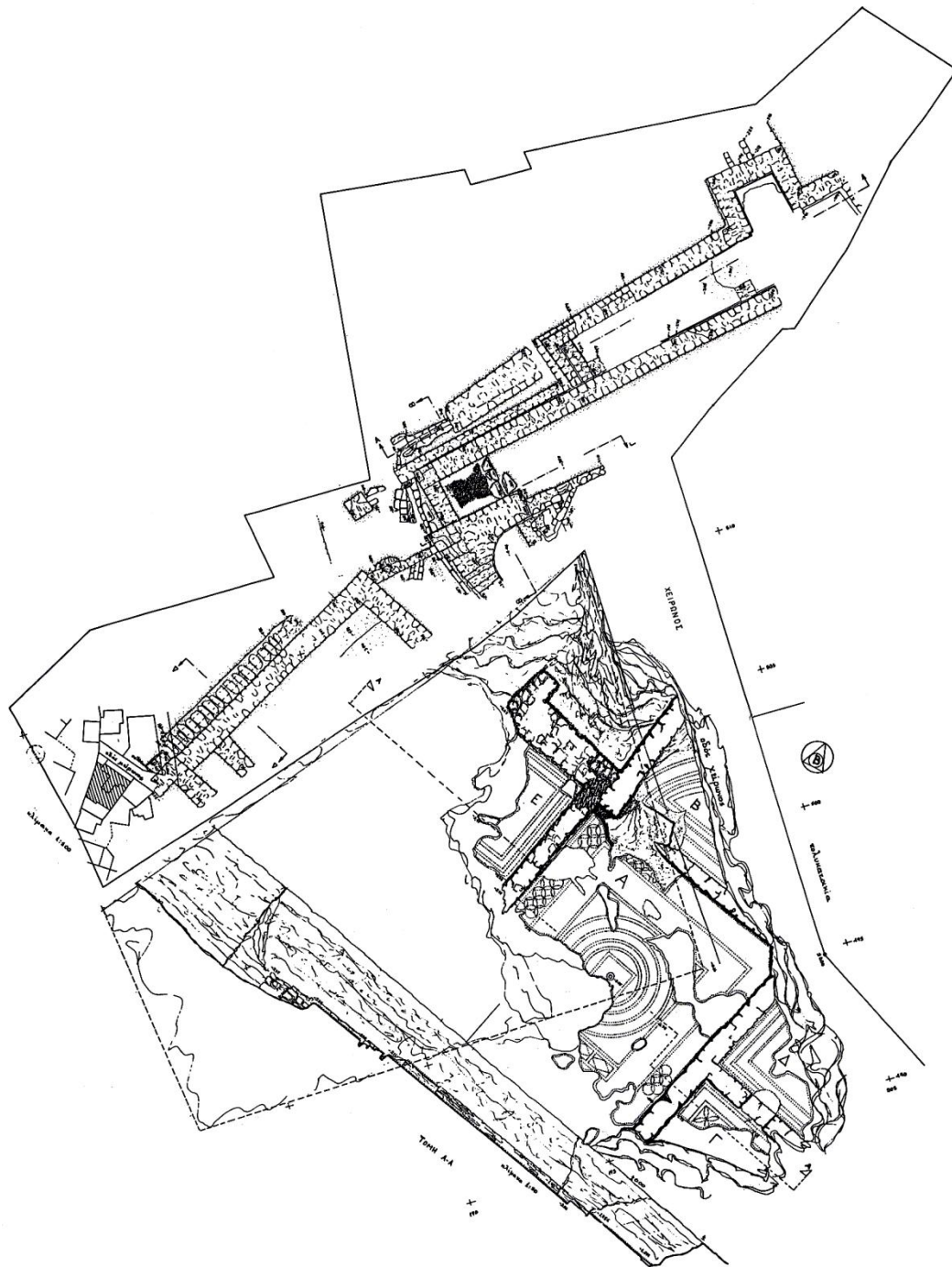


Fig.5b. House (5), general plan



Fig.5c. House (5), mosaic details of room B (apse).

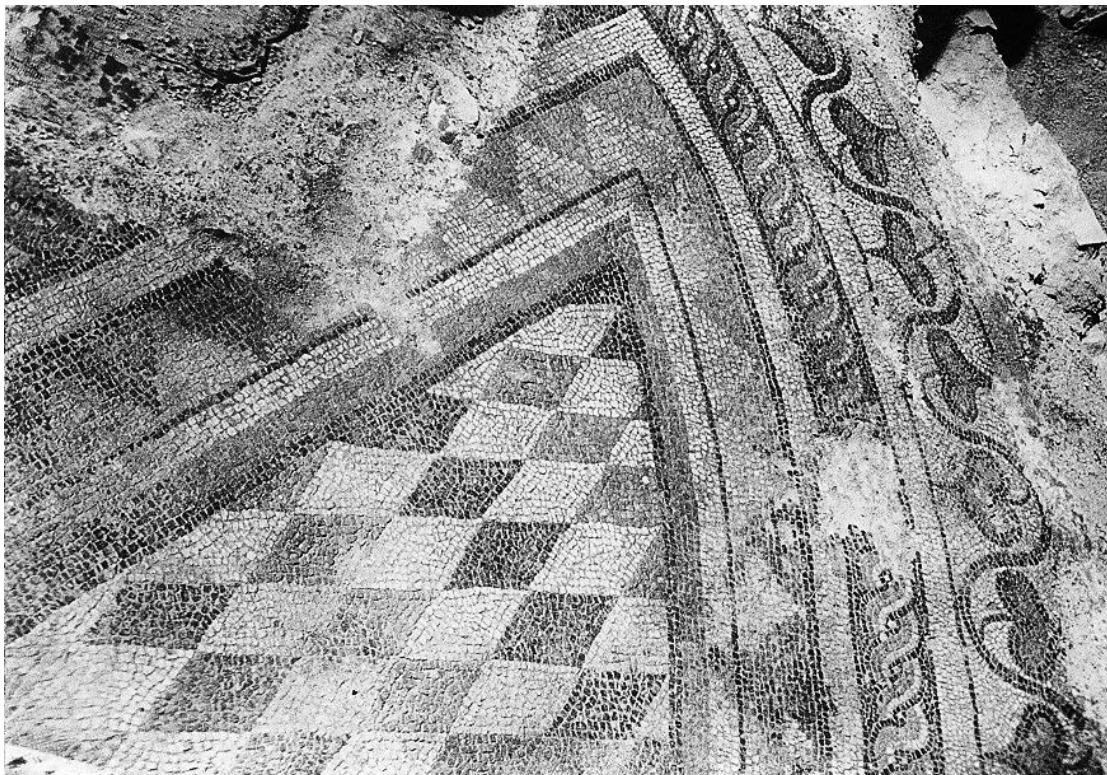


Fig.5d. House (5), mosaic details of room B (apse).

- c. Hall (A)** W: 8.40m., L: 8.20m. (max. preserved) (Makropoulou 1989a:257-259).
floor: The mosaic floor (fig.5e), executed in white, black, red, grey and ochre tesserae, was divided into two parts, surrounded by an outer border of

quatrefoils (figs 5e, 5h). The area directly in front of the apse was covered with a large square, 4.35 x 4.20m., centred on a small square panel containing a quadrilateral Solomon's knot, framed within a series of concentric circles. The lunettes formed by the innermost circle are filled with floral stems on opposing sides, and a stylized cypress on the third side (fourth side is missing). Three outer circles of decoration, interspaced by plain fillets, are composed respectively of a running-dog motif, a band of interlocking teeth and braiding/chainwork (figs 5e-g, 5h-j). Everything is then contained within a large square frame. The spandrels between the circle and the outer frame are decorated with ivy bearing heart shaped leaves (figs 5g, 5h-i). The Solomon's knot is found in a similar though simpler version in the early Christian church on Karpathos, dating from the second half of the 4th century (Pelekanidis 1974:53). A very similar motif to the floral stems has been found in the residence located SE of the odeion in Argos and has been dated to the end of the 4th century (Atzaka and Pelekanidou 1987:48). A central panel decorated with ivy on its corners has also been found as part of the decoration of the residence on 94 Egnatia St. (Karamanoli-Siganidou 1971:382). At the south end of the room was a row of rectangular panels (probably just inside the entrance) two of which survive; one containing a diamond and the other a rosette (fig.5g). Similar examples were revealed in the residence cat.no.1 possibly dating to the late 4th century, as well as on 74 Olymbiados St., at the bath of 138 Olymbou St. (see cat.no.8), and on the floor of the South stoa of the agora (Mavropoulou-Tsioumi, Kourkoutidou-Nikolaidou, Marki 1982:290).

walls: not preserved

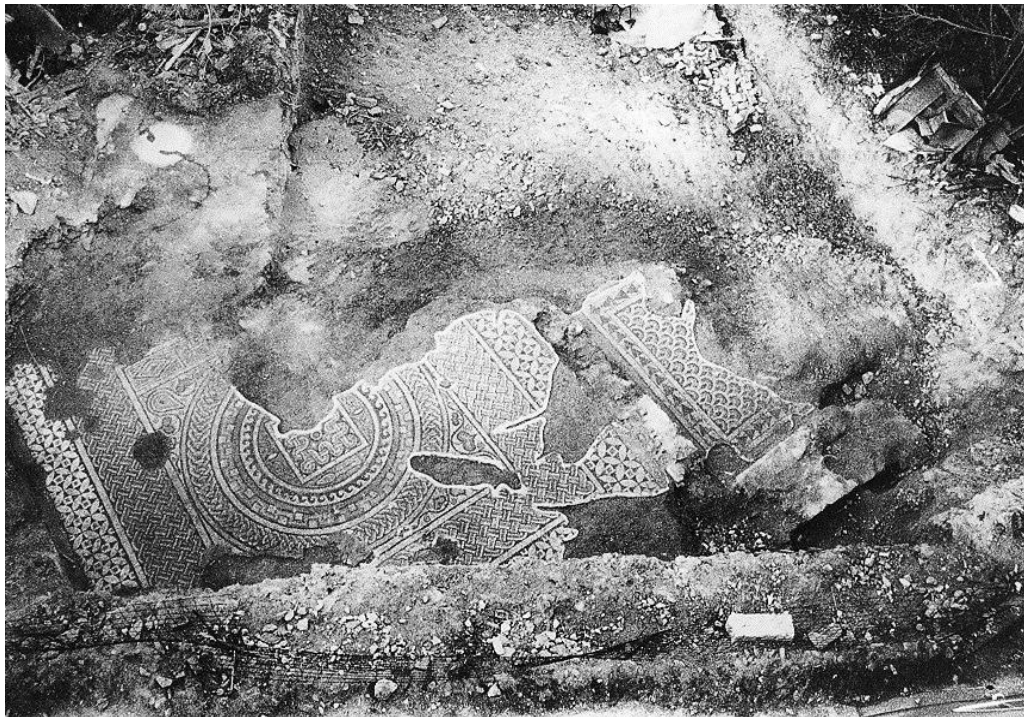


Fig.5e. House (5), room A.



Fig.5f. House (5), room A.



Fig.5g. House (5), room A.

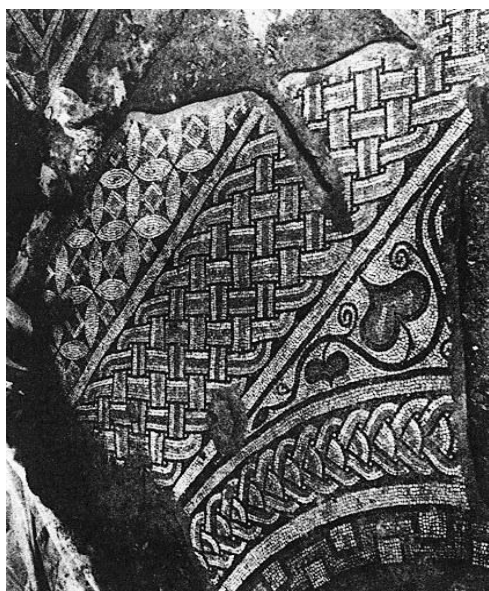


Fig.5h. House (5), mosaic details of room A.



Fig.5i. House (5), mosaic details of room A.



Fig.5j. House (5), mosaic details of room A.

5.7 Associated Space: A second room (room Γ) was excavated on the east of the room A (fig.5b), which is built on a higher level of 0.30m. Excavations could only salvage its mosaic floor on its northwest corner with dimensions 3.50 x 1.50m. This room

communicates with the nearby room Δ via a door. This doorway is 1.10m. wide. If this doorway was located in the middle of the communicating wall, it can suggest that its full length and therefore the width of the rooms Γ and Δ was 4.20m. The floor of room Δ was also decorated with a mosaic, from which only its southwest corner survived. The surviving dimensions of this mosaic are approximately 4 x 3m. Makropoulou (1989a:259) states that this mosaic is built on a slightly higher level than the one in room Γ . Room E was built 0.30m. lower than all the previous rooms. Its east side was 4.50m. long.

The rooms of this residence are built on different levels following the natural morphology of the underlying rocky ground. Room Δ is the highest one followed by room Γ , whose floor was slightly lower. The main room A comes second and the lowest of all is room E . The floor of the apsidal is on a higher level than the central room A and this is because of its importance as the main room of the residence.

The central panel of the mosaic floor of room Γ is filled with a geometric design based on a combination of peltas and quatrefoils (fig.5k). It is surrounded by a wavy stem with arrow shaped leaves. A red stripe borders the entire composition. A similar pattern has been found on the floor decoration of the bath of 138 Olymbou St. and Olymbou – Manolaki Kiriakou Streets (Makropoulou 1989a:261). Another parallel was found in the early Christian church at Ermioni in Argolida (Atzaka 1987:63).

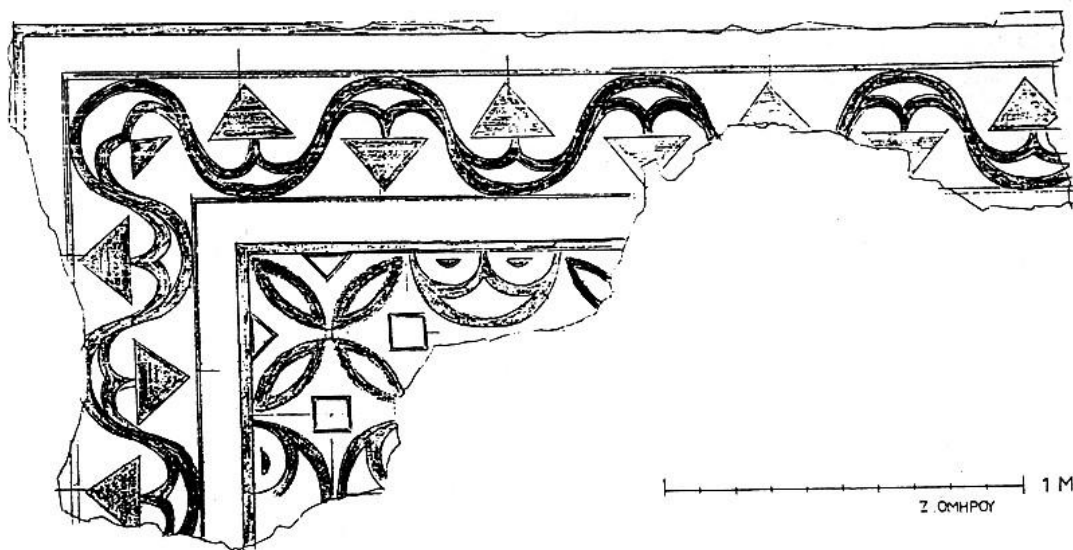


Fig.5k. House (5), room (5), drawing of mosaic floor in room Γ .

The main pattern of the mosaic floor in room Δ (fig.5l) is the interlocking black octagons juxtaposed against a white and grey background creating squares on their joining sides. Each octagon and square contains a second and smaller red hexagon or a square within them. This pattern is surrounded by a red stripe followed by a chequerboard in black, red and grey. The octagon design has also been found in many other sites across Greece and the Balkans (see Ch.V and Table 1).

The floor of room E (fig.5m) is decorated with imbrication in white and red. A row of simple black triangles on a grey background surrounds the imbrication. An external red strip of fillet runs around the whole mosaic. The imbrication design is very popular in Thessalonica and elsewhere (see Ch.V).

According to Atzaka, a room on the western edge of the residence was covered with a plain coarse mosaic (unpublished). This is also dated to the late 4th century (Atzaka 1998:324).

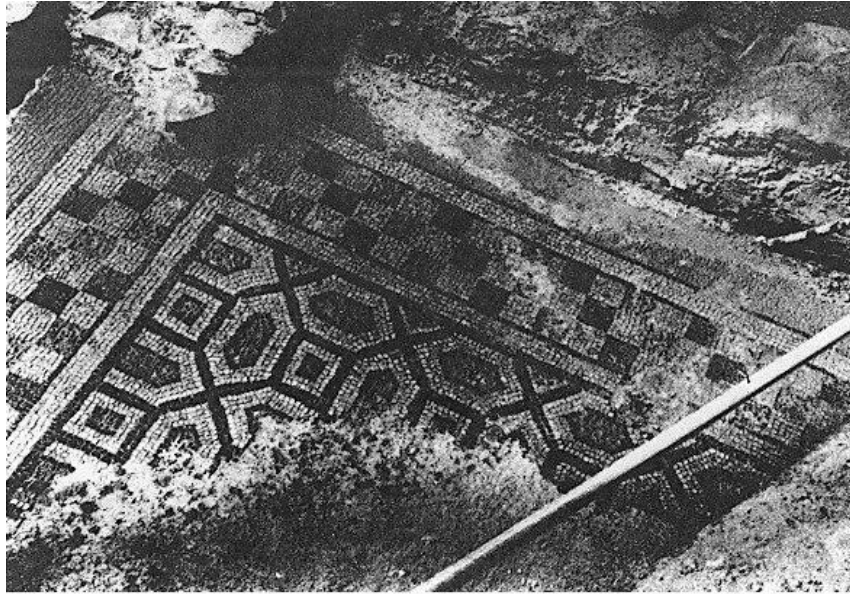


Fig.5l. House (5), mosaic details of room Δ.

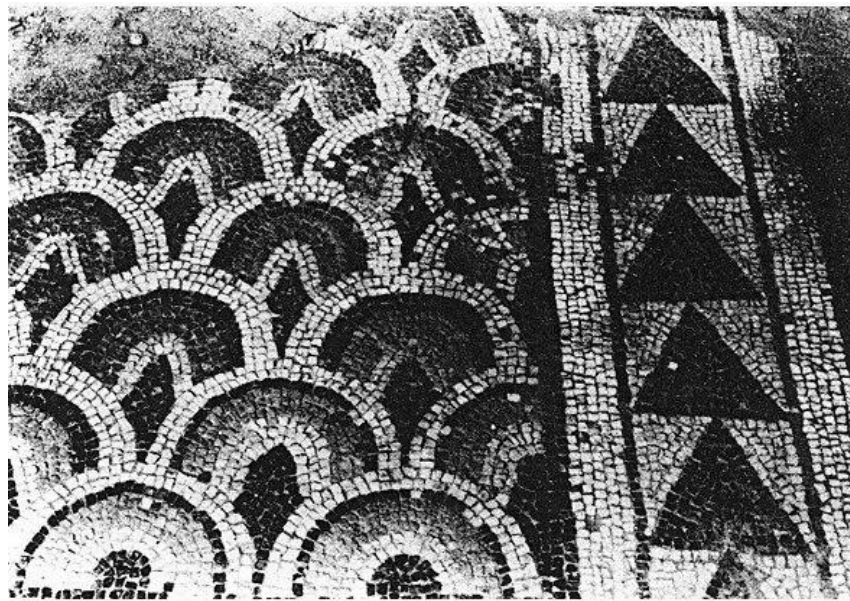


Fig.5m. House (5), mosaic details of room E.

6. House with apsidal hall (fig.6a)

6.1 Location: 75 Aghias Sofias Street and 18 Sofokleous Street.

6.2 Date of excavations: 1993-96, 1998 and 2000.

The archaeological reports mention that a very brief excavation that was conducted by N. Karydas between November 1993 and March 1994 (eastern, northern and central part of complex) and another one between January 1995 and January 1996 by N. Bonovas.

Salvage excavation that took place on the northern part of the site on 20 Sofokleous Street between 6/7/1998 and 10/09/1998 by N. Karydas revealed the remains of another complex (see below).

Further excavation of the neighbouring site on 18-20 Sofokleous Street by N. Karydas commenced between 15/05/2000 and 28/07/2000. This enhanced our knowledge about the northern extension of the complex.

6.3 Bibliography:

Grumel 1958:477.
 Lazaridis 1973/74b:757-8.
 Deriziotis 1974:174-83.
 Pelekanidis 1974:no.17, fig.19a.
 Bakirtzis 1977:267.
 Assimakopoulou-Atzaka 1982:136, fig.41.
 Assimakopoulou-Atzaka 1987:no.14, fig.71.
 Papazahos 1989:229.
 Makropoulou-Tzitzibasi 1993:355-72.
 Karydas 1994:497-501.
 Karydas 1995.
 Karydas 1996:572-3.
 Vitti 1996:103.
 Assimakopoulou-Atzaka 1998:145, 214.
 Karydas 2002.
 Bonini 2006:508-9.

6.4 Construction: The excavator provides no information on the materials used and briefly mentions that *opus mixtum* was used as a general construction technique for walls of the site.

6.5 Dating: The salvage excavation of the building plot on 75 Aghias Sofias Street revealed different architectural phases starting from the Hellenistic period and up to the Post-Byzantine years (fig.6a). Traces of previous occupation on the site from the Hellenistic period were found during excavation.

Further excavation in the new quarters of the complex (probably built in the 5th century) on the east, brought to light old layers of floor decoration. Between the second and the third layers, 4 coins were discovered that date to the 2nd quarter of the 4th century. Similar findings were brought to light from other trenches in the southwest and northeast part of the area (Karydas 1995:256, n.6; Atzaka 1998:214).

During the first half of the 7th century the residences were destroyed by strong earthquakes, possibly in 630. The complex continued to be occupied until the Late Byzantine period with further alterations and modification of the surviving older structure.

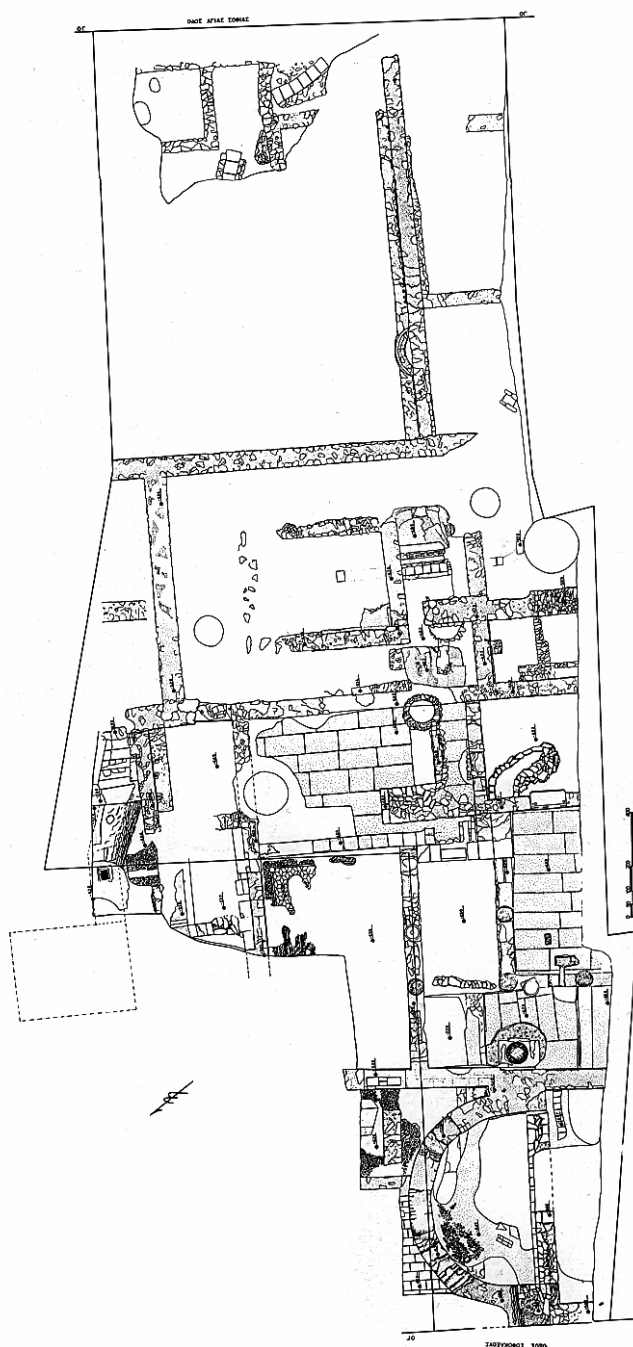
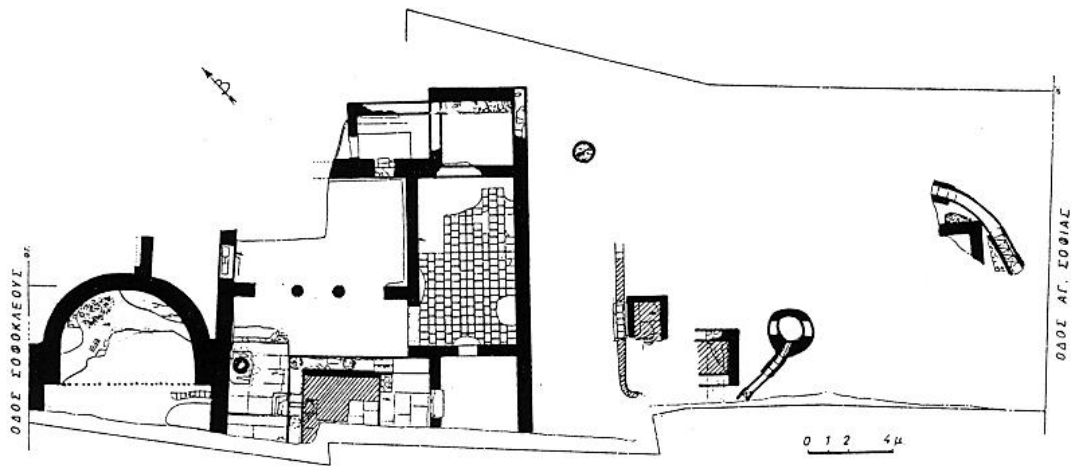
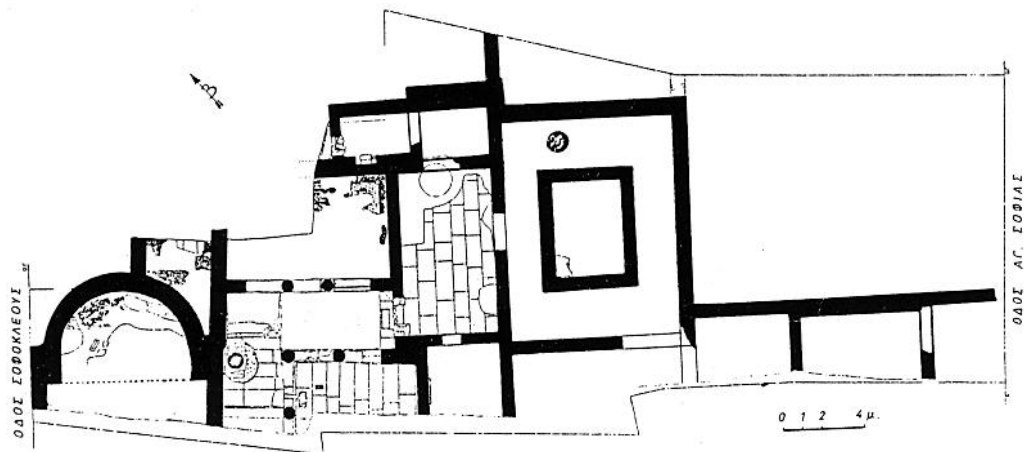
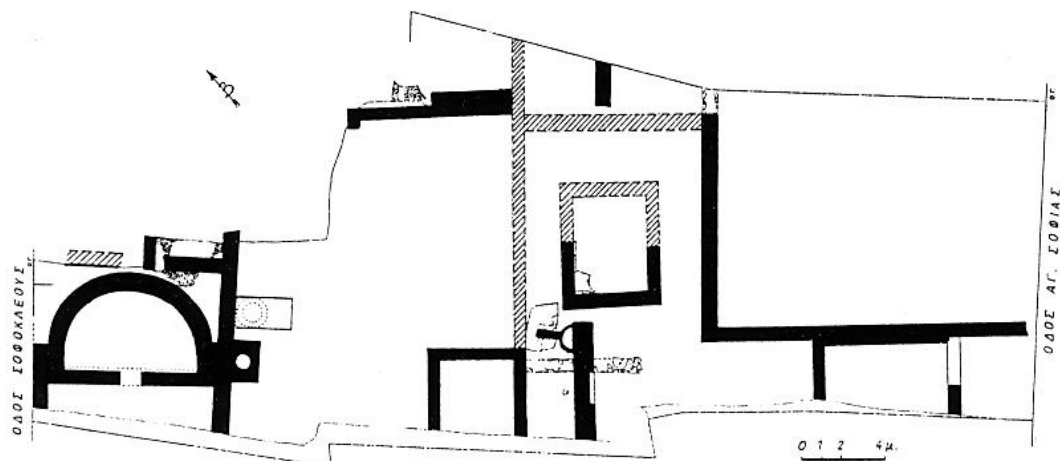


Fig.6a. House (6), general plan.

Fig.6b: House (6), 4th century.Fig.6c: House (6), 5th century.Fig.d: House (6), 6th century.

6.5 Apsidal Hall:

a. Orientation: Facing South-west.

b. Apse: Cord of apse 6.70m. (c.23 Roman feet). Width of hall 8.30m. Step between apse and hall of 25-30cm.

floors: Reddish sub-floor layer, preserved in places and covered with a floor of marble fragments. The length of the fragments varies between 3 and 10cm. (Atzaka 1998:275) (fig.6e). Similar types of mosaics to the latter were found in other areas of the house and they belong to later periods, possibly mid-Byzantine years.

walls: Not known (nothing survives above floor level).

c. Hall: The hall could not be excavated.

d. Other architectural features: Columns in entrance to apse in phase I.



Fig.6e. House (6), coarse mosaic details from apse.

6.6 Associated space: North of the apsidal there are two rooms covered with soil. On the east side of the main hall three rooms were located around a small court with a cistern in the centre. It was probably the *impluvium* or the fountain of the house.

On the north side of the stoa there was a room/domus (8.50 x 5.50m.) with two Ionic order columns in its entrance. On its west wall there was a window and on the north wall a doorway that communicates with a room on a higher level behind the apse, floored with coarse mosaic. To the east, a room dating from an earlier period survived, but with its three walls rebuilt. A door opened towards the room on its south side, which was also linked with the court.

6.7 Other Adjacent rooms: Karydas (1994:499) suggested that at some time in the 4th century the home business area probably expands on the east part of the residence and it now included a new reservoir located next to the old one.

In the first half of the 5th century, the house was extended towards the east with a second court reusing an old well located in its north stoa (Karydas 1994:500) (fig.6c) and three new rooms were built on the southeast side with marble slabs on their floors. Changes happened in the already existing west part as well. The *impluvium* was then destroyed and the open air spaces as well as the stoas were covered with marble slabs. A well was also built on the west stoa and all the walls of the stoa were now covered with marble veneer up to the height of 0.50m. The upper parts were decorated with frescoes in a geometric panel scheme (imitating an *opus sectile*). The room/domus north of the stoa is also changing. The north entrance and the west window were filled up with brickwork and its floor level was raised 15-20cm. when a new colourful mosaic floor of excellent quality replaced the old floor (figs 6f and 6g-i).

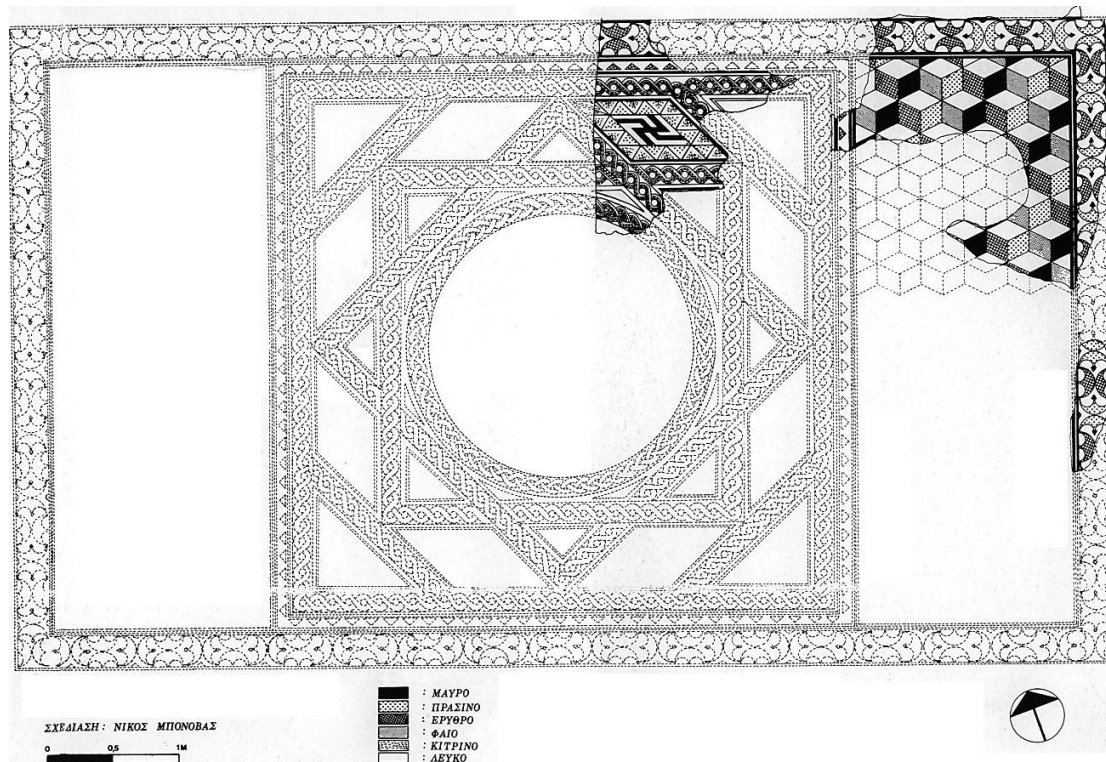


Fig.6f. The 5th century mosaic of (6), room north of stoa.

The mosaic has a wide external border line with paired peltas; some of them form triangles. This mosaic is divided into three panels (fig.6f). The main panel's theme is a complicated composition based on two joining large squares that are contained within a bigger octagon. The lines of all these shapes are decorated with braiding (fig.6i). Only one small section between the lines has survived and contains zigzags with a big swastika. The pattern of the joining squares is well known from the early Roman mosaics of the western empire but it is rather rare in Greece according to Pompei (1990:510). Similar compositions were found in the Roman agora of Thessalonica and further examples were found in the Christian Basilica of Archbishop Peter in Phthiotic Thebes (Atzaka 1982:136), the Christian Basilica of Karatasos Street in Beroea (Lazaridis 1973/74b:757-8) (unpublished), in the Christian Basilica of St. Anastasia in Arkasa of Karpathos (Pelekanides 1974:17) and at the early Christian residence in Ermioni (Atzaka 1987:14). The use of joining squares (in the

main section) with braiding and swastikas is also a pattern that was probably used in Thessalonica by the local workshops from the 4th century onwards (Atzaka 1998:145).



Fig. 6g. House (6), mosaic details from main hall.



Fig. 6h. House (6), mosaic details from main hall.



Fig. 6i. House (6), mosaic details from main hall.

On the right side of the main panel a small part has survived depicting colourful cubes in perspective (figs 6g-h). The dimensions of the survived sections are just 2.20 x 2m., 1.65 x 1.20m. and 1 x 0.35m. The pattern with the cubes is very popular during the Hellenistic period but it was still in use in numerous mosaic floors in Greece during then Roman Imperial years and it disappears in Late Antiquity (Atzaka 1998:145).

Further research by Karydas in 1998 in the room located on the north side of the room with the luxurious mosaic has concluded that there were over six construction phases and repairs on its walls. Its north wall survived at a height of 2.65m. was entirely built

with bricks and it had an arched entrance 1m. wide and 2m. high. Small windows (0.50m. wide) were traced on a height of 2.30m. and they were at a later stage filled up with brickwork. According to Karydas (2000:262) this room was not a storage room but it was related to the room with the mosaic. The latter was in the middle of an imaginary axis possibly starting from the entrance of the residence (located on the *decumanus* that was situated to the north of today's Kassandrou Street) and going through the atrium, the centre of the north stoa, the entrance with the two columns, the room with the mosaic, the opening on the north wall arriving at the fake door, which is located on the wall of the last room (fig.6j). This door did not have any use due to the existence of the natural rock at a height of 1.50 metres. If we calculate the layer of soil above it, we reach the height of 2.10m., where a window is situated. Therefore exit was not possible from there and the door must have been constructed for strictly decorative purposes.

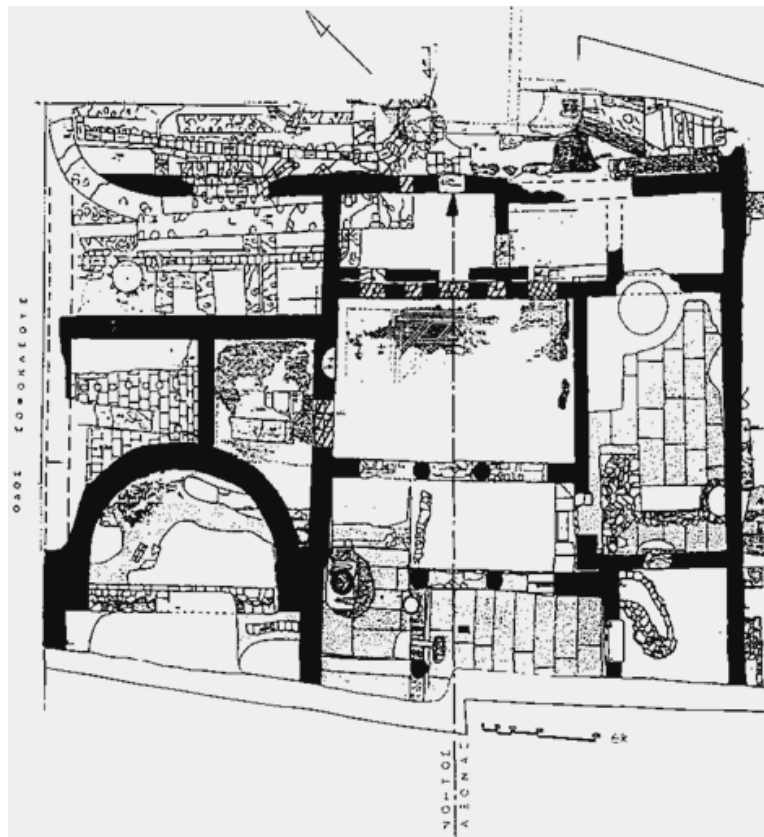


Fig.6j. House (6), plan of house in the 5th century.

In the early 6th century (fig.6d), a door with marble steps replaced the spaces between the columns. The level of the floor of the room on the east of the stoa was raised higher by 0.50m. and the level difference between the rooms of the two residents was decreased. At the same time a new entrance was opened on the east side communicating with the atrium of the new residence. Its floor was covered by terracotta slabs and during the 6th century these were replaced by marble ones. Further excavation under the marble slabs discovered a coin that dates to the reign of Anastasius (491-518) (Karydas 1995:254). The room located on the northeast of the apse became 0.40m. higher and it was covered with a coarse mosaic. Its window on the east wall was also filled up with brickwork.

It seems that the width of the residence is half of the ancient *insula* (fig.6k). Unfortunately, we do not know the length of the house. Karydas (2000:269) suggests that its size from the findings-to-date is approximately 450m² and it has been estimated that its total size could cover up to 1,000m². The complex has two reception areas, the *triclinium* and the area of the domus, which existed before the *triclinium*.

The 1998 excavations that took place on the northern part of the site (20 Sofokleous Street) revealed the remains of another residence that may be associated with **no.6** (figs 6k, 6l). It was built over a platform that lies 2m. higher from the southern complex. Its west border was defined by an ancient road, which ran north of the long wall. A small *decumanus* might have existed where Halikarnassou street is today. The picture of the north residence is unclear. It has been suggested that its size could have been around 500m² and its dimensions 25 x 20m. (Karydas 2000:269). Its structure is rather fragmentary because of all the later modifications and new buildings during the Byzantine period. The main entrance of the complex could have been located on the west on today's Sofokleous Street and a secondary entrance could have possibly been situated on the north part, on Halikarnassou Street.

The arched structure shown in fig.6l is a room (7 x 6.20m.) with an apsidal (cord of 5m.) orientated to the west. It has strong foundations (0.90m. thick) that reach the depth of 1.5-2m. The room lies on the natural bedrock. It dates to the late Byzantine period as indicated by the abandonment of middle Byzantine pipes and reservoirs that occupied the area before. The function of this structure is unknown. It is most likely to have functioned as the refectory of a monastic community. Excavations of the local Ephorate (Karydas 2002:266) have found five areas with fragments belonging to monastery buildings, temples and cemeteries within 50-100 metres from the above location. Two mid-Byzantine column capitals bearing the symbol of the Christian cross were discovered as well as other architectural elements with Christian motifs.



Fig.6k. House (6), plan of residences on Sofokleous and Aghias Sofias St.

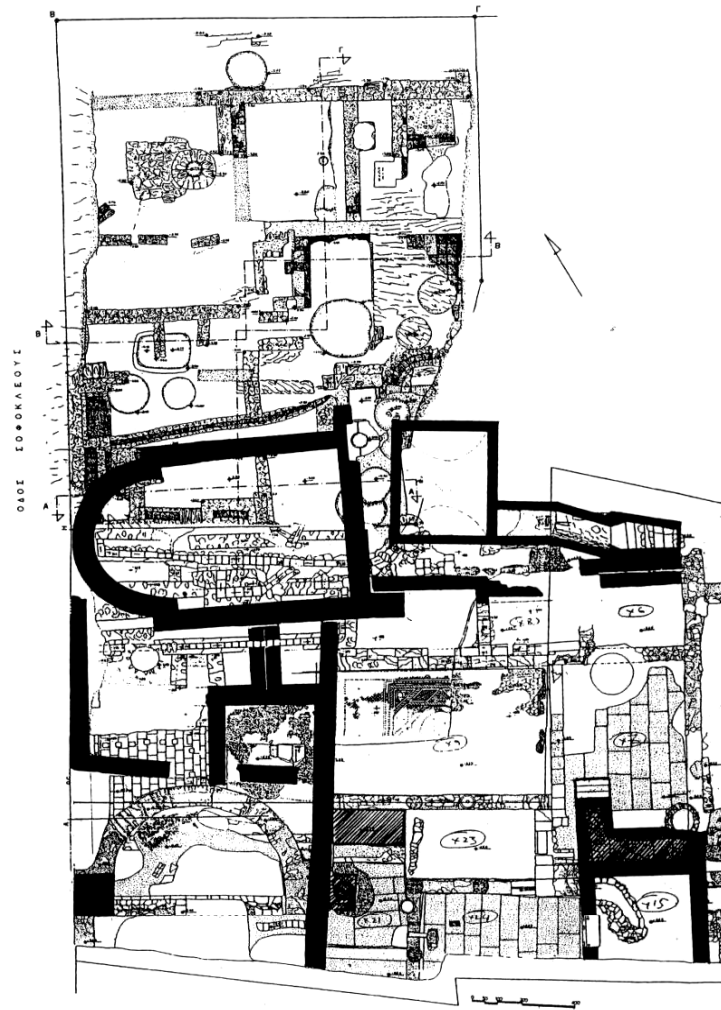


Fig.61. House (6), plan, showing later additions.

7. Apsidal hall (fig.7a)

7.1 Location: 5-11 Profiti Elias Street and vicinity. 43.20m. above sea level.

7.2 Date of excavations: Belonging to four different land owners, the plots of 5-11 Profiti Elias were partially excavated in 1973 by O. Alexandri when parts of the nearby bath complex were revealed, and then in 1988 by K. Eleftheriadou who discovered parts of the main residence.

7.3 Bibliography:

Alexandri 1973-1974b:673, figs 486c-d.
 Eleftheriadou 1988:389-390, fig.230a.
 Karydas 1996:574.
 Vitti 1996:243-4.
 Assimakopoulou-Atzaka 1998:317, n.435.
 Bonini 2006:512-3.

7.4 Construction: Built on natural bedrock, which was modified to host the house. The walls of the complex were constructed using the technique of stone and mortar combined with three courses of brick (*opus mixtum*). They are all bonded with strong mortar.

7.5 Dating: The excavator (O.Alexandri) avoided an exact dating but the complex has been classified as an early Byzantine period (4th century) construction. Atzaka instead dated it to the 2nd half of the 5th century (Atzaka 1998:175).

7.6 Apsidal Hall:

a. Orientation: Facing South-west.

b. Apse: Cord 6.60m. (c.23 Roman feet). The apse was contained within a rectangle.

floor: Coarse mosaic bearing no discernible patterns.

walls: Not known (nothing survives above floor level).

c. Hall: L: 9m., W (preserved): 9m.

floor: Mostly destroyed. Traces of *opus sectile* technique were found with square shaped marble tiles were placed diagonally (Karydas 1996:574). Eleftheriadou (1988:389) also states that the floor survived in a very bad condition and in most cases we can only see their imprints on the mortar.

walls: Surviving up to 10-15cms. White marble slabs up to a height of around 10cm. and the rest can be seen only by their imprints on the thick mortar.

d. Other architectural features: Two extremely fragmentary rooms of unknown use were found to the east of the central room.

7.7 Adjacent Rooms of 11 Profiti Elias St.: Alexandri (1973-1974b:673) reported a bath complex with five preserved rooms. The walls of the complex were 0.80-0.90m. wide and they were constructed with brick and stone bonded with lime. The walls were built on the underlying rocky ground to a depth of 2.20m and the highest surviving point reaches 2.20m. Vitti (1996:244) suggested that this bath probably belonged to residence **no.7**.

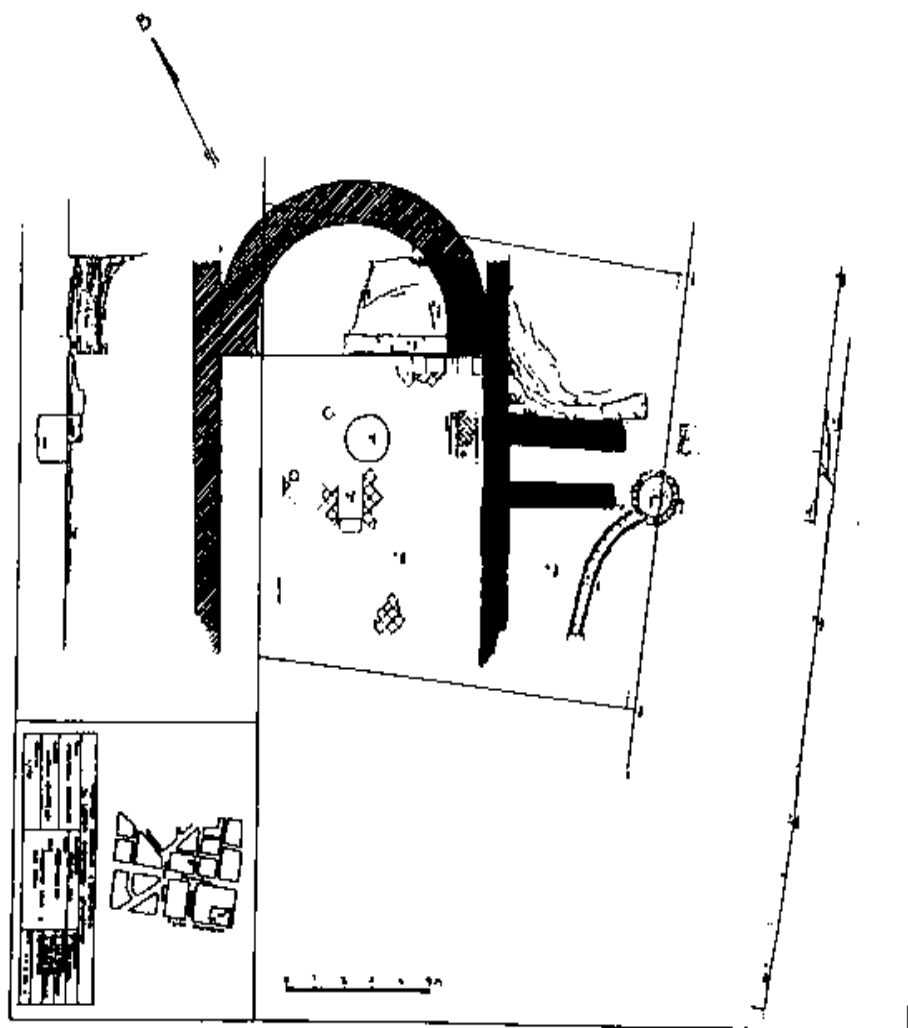


Fig.7a. House (7), plan.

8. Domus with apsidal hall (fig.8a)

8.1 Location: 74-76 Olymbiados Street.

8.2 Date of excavation: Two sections of the complex (belonging to two different plots of different owners) were excavated by A.S. Petkos during separate time periods in 1991. Due to time restrictions, the plots were excavated within just a few days and reports did not include much information.

8.3 Bibliography:

Mavropoulou-Tsioumi *et al.* 1982:290, fig.195b.
 Assimakopoulou-Atzaka 1984:410.
 Makropoulou 1989a:257-70, plans 1-5, figs 1-12.
 Makropoulou 1989b:260.
 Mentzos 1990:233.
 Petkos 1993a:48-9, no.1, figs 13-14.
 Petkos 1993b:102-3, fig.5a.
 Ntina 1994:359, fig.8.
 Assimakopoulou-Atzaka 1991:55-6.
 Campbell 1991:8-9, no.2, figs 25-26.
 Karydas 1996:576, 580.
 Assimakopoulou-Atzaka 1998:128-30, 145-6, 238-41 (n.174), 314, figs 126-134, XXXV.
 Bonini 2006:515-6.

8.4 Construction: Not recorded (photographic evidence of the walls is non existent).

8.5 Dating: The residence was built over an older building. Based on the mosaic patterns the main phase of the apsidal hall dates to between the end of the 4th and the beginnings of the 5th century Atzaka (1998:128-130, 241). The excavators (Chr. Mavropoulou-Tsioumi and her team) dated the complex to the “early Christian period”. Excavations also brought to light later construction phases. Atzaka (1998:241, n.174, 314) suggests that during the early-mid 5th century the floors of the corridors were covered by a layer of coarse mosaics.

8.6 Apsidal Hall:

a. Orientation: Facing South-west.

b. Apse: Apse not excavated. Estimated cord: 6.60m. (c.23 Roman feet).

c. Hall: L: excavated length 9m., restored length 10m., W: 8m.

floor: Mosaic (figs 8a, 8b). Outer border comprises of squares and rectangles decorated with geometrical patterns. Main field of smaller square panels within grid of braiding. The squares contain geometrical motif but they have not survived in a good condition. Other sections (fig.8c-d) include cross-shaped designs containing diamonds and other star-shaped objects (Atzaka 1998:238-40). They also include an octagon that contains a second octagon with a circle and meander in its centre (fig.8b). Another extremely fragmentary section on the north corner of the main room just before the start of the apsidal seems to be decorated with intersecting octagons combined with key-shaped meander. Floral patterns include ivy, peltas and four-leaf shamrock.

hall doorway: Between the north corridor and the *triclinium* two small mosaic panels were found. The first was decorated with chequerboard and the second

contained a circle with four leaf-shaped items. The circle contains a smaller circle and a cross-shaped motive (fig.8b).

walls: Not known.

d. Other architectural features: On the south side, entrance through two columns.

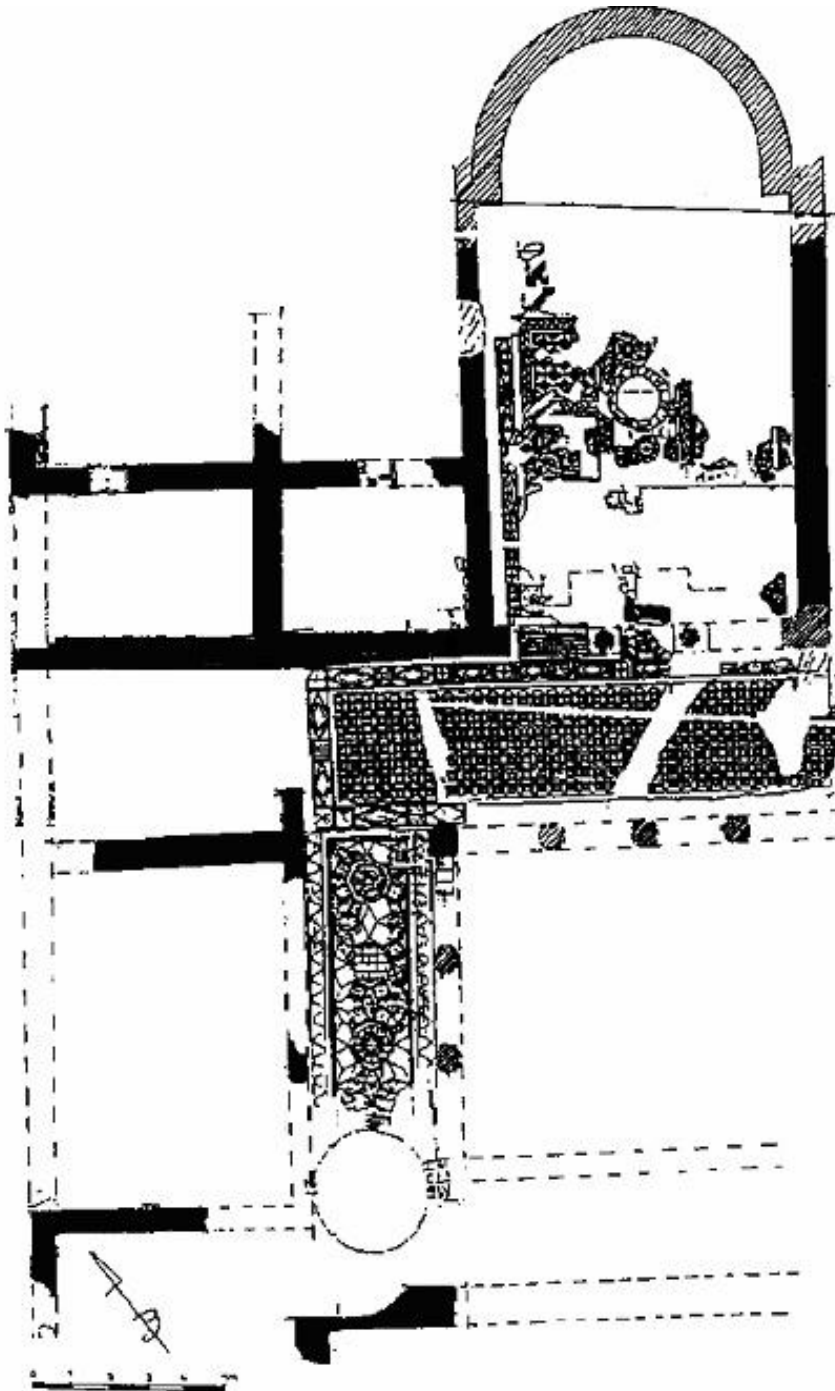


Fig.8a. House (8), plan.

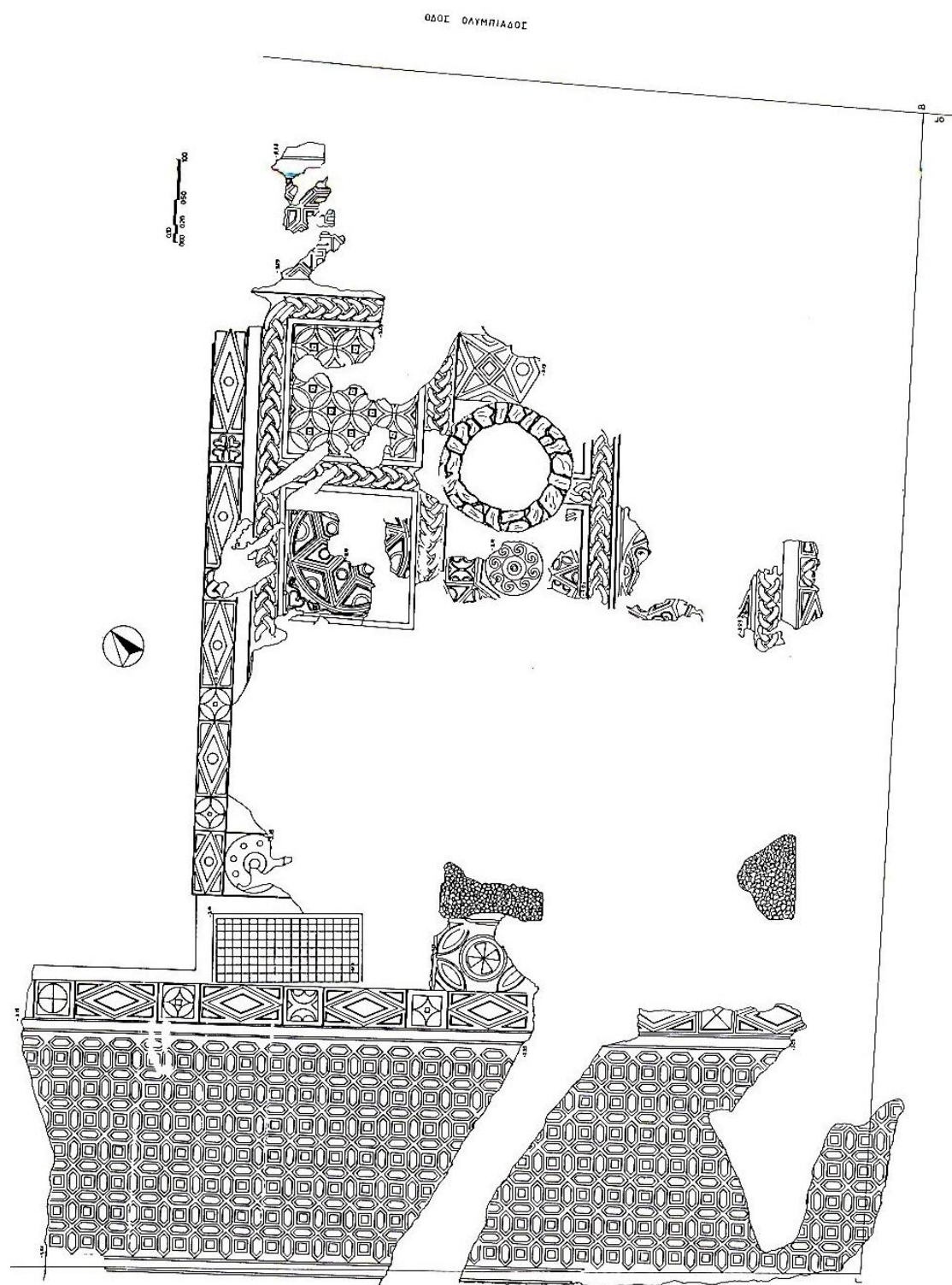


Fig.8b. House (8), mosaics in north corridor and apsidal hall.



Fig.8c. House (8), mosaic in hall, detail.



Fig.8d. House (8), mosaic in hall, detail.

8.7 Associated Space: The hall opens towards a peristyle courtyard with corridors on the north and the west; both have high quality mosaic floors. Their main colours are black, dark red, red and yellow.

North corridor mosaics:

The north corridor's mosaics are surrounded by a wide borderline that encloses rectangles and squares (figs 8b and 8e-f). The rectangles contain diamonds, which contain smaller ones (Atzaka 1998:239). The squares are decorated with peltas, chequerboard, circles and quatrefoil. The main panel bears a composition of intersecting octagons that contain squares. The same pattern occurs in the mosaics of room Δ in residence (5) (fig.5l).



Fig.8e. House (8), mosaic in north corridor, detail.



Fig.8f. House (8), mosaic in north corridor, detail.

West corridor mosaics:

The west corridor's mosaics (fig.8a) are surrounded by a wavy border. The main panel contains a composition of octagons that form squares and diamonds on their sides (the same pattern has been found in the mosaics in Room Δ on no.5, fig.5l). Three octagons survived. The first octagon contains a circle surrounded by triangles, the second has a chequerboard and the third bears a Solomon knot surrounded by a stripe with continuous triangles. Most of the diamonds enclose smaller ones and other decorative patterns such as peltas, squares, triangles and leaves.

8.8 Other adjacent rooms: The north corridor was linked to a large room 8m. wide and with a survived length of 9m. Four rooms were found on the west side of the main room. It is quite possible that more rooms were located here. Two rooms were also excavated on the west side of the corridor.

9. Apse with adjoining space (fig.9a)

9.1 Location: 15 Ioulianou Street.

9.2 Date of excavation: 1971 (see House no.4).

9.3 Bibliography:

Karamanoli-Siganidou 1971:390-3, fig.389.

Atzaka 1998:320-1.

Bonini 2006:518-9.

9.4 Construction: The fragmentary walls are constructed with the *opus mixtum* technique. The residence was built over an older building, which preserves a straight wall 12m. long running from NW to SW.

9.5 Dating: The excavator (M. Karamanoli-Siganidou) dated the building to the “Roman period” (Siganidou 1971:390). Atzaka dated the coarse mosaics of the first phase of the building to the late 4th century with no further precision (Atzaka 1998:321).

9.6 Apsidal Hall:

a. Orientation: Facing South-west.

b. Apse: Cord 6m. (c.20 Roman feet).

floor: Coarse mosaic.

walls: Fresco with simple decoration. The apse walls were preserved to a height of 1m. from the foundations. It is contained within a square structure, with no space between the external walls and the walls of the apse.

c. Hall: L: Unknown, W: 9m.

floor: coarse mosaic. Trace on north side of apse step.

walls: Not excavated.

9.7 Associated space: At a later period of unknown date, a second room was constructed on the east side of the apse, which, similarly to the room on Ag. Demetriou St., had a floor covered with marble octagonal and square tiles. The tiles did not survive *in situ* apart from some imprints on the underlying mortar.

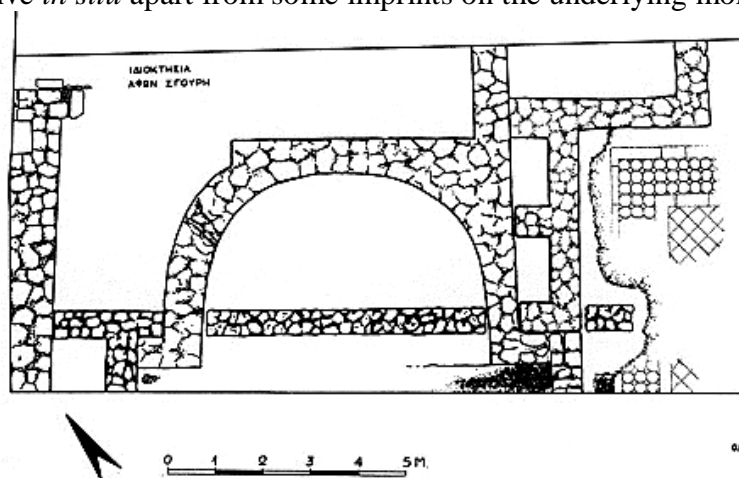


Fig.9a. House (9), plan, excerpt from fig.4a.

10. Apsidal hall (fig.10a)

10.1 Location: 9 Lapithon Street, 0.50m. below modern street level. It is situated very close to St. Demetrius Church.

10.2 Date of excavation: The site was found during the plot preparation for a modern building in 1990. A brief excavation was undertaken by K. Eleftheriadou.

10.3 Bibliography:

Pelekanidis 1974, no.136, fig.128b.
 Kourkoutidou-Nikolaidou 1990:323, 332-4.
 Eleftheriadou 1990:332-4, pl.1 and fig. 151b.
 Karydas 1996:574.
 Assimakopoulou-Atzaka 1998:151, 154. 156, 258-9, 311-2.

10.4 Construction: The whole residence is built on platforms due to the underlying bedrock. The excavator mentions an *opus mixtum* technique of three courses of brick.

10.5 Dating: Second half of the 5th century based on the *tabula ansata* inscription that survived on the mosaic floor in the apsidal hall, and the fresco decorating the north wall of the hall (see below).

10.6 Apsidal Hall (no plan made at the time of excavation and there is only one available photograph. See fig.10a for plan based on the written descriptions).

a. Orientation: Facing West.

b. Apse: Cord 5.75m. (c.19.4 Roman feet).

floor: The apse floor, on a higher level has a coarse mosaic ranging between 4-7cms (Eleftheriadou 1990:332; Atzaka 1998:312).

walls: Traces of a white marble veneer.

c. Hall: L (surviving): 10.35m., W: 7.45m. (Eleftheriadou 1990:332).

floors: An excellent quality mosaic was revealed east of the apse (fig.10b). The border section consists of intersecting circles forming quatrefoil, guilloche and chain. On the northeast side of the mosaic this pattern is being replaced by rectangles and squares. The rectangles (only three have survived) contain diamonds decorated with other geometrical patterns (circles, squares etc) and the squares contain cross-shaped patterns and peltas. The main subject of the mosaic consists of:

1. Three large panels that are surrounded by braiding. The south and the north panels contain imbrication and the one in the middle has octagons that are linked with swastikas, which contain birds and fruits. The green tesserae used in this section to depict the birds were made of glass and they are 1cm. or smaller according to Atzaka (1998:258). The above composition (octagons with swastikas) has also been found in the mosaics of the Evagelistria church dated to the 6th century (Atzaka 1998:156). Close parallels are also found in the Acheiropoietos church (Dimitrokalis 1982:326).

2. Two rectangular panels: the south panel has braiding and the north one contains an inscription inside a *tabula ansata*: 'EYT[YX]ΩΣ / EYΣEBIΩ / EYTYXΩΣ / MAPKIA / EYTYXΩΣ / EΛΛAΔITH / KA[I] KAHMENTI/[N]H'. The inscription wishes Eusebius and Markia and their two

children a happy life. Most of the words are decorated with ivy leaves. Inscriptions in mosaics are rare in Thessalonica. Another example has been found in the mosaic of 101 Olympiados St. (ex 75 Athinas St.), which is dated to the 2nd half of the 4th century (it reads: 'ΕΥ[ΤΥ]ΧΩΣ ΧΡΩ / ΕΥΠΙΕΠΗ / ΜΕΤΑ / ΑΥΞΑΝΟΥΣΗ(Σ)', Atzaka 1998:150-1, 221). Other examples have been found at a house in Dion (Pantermanlis 1993:197), at a residence in Crete (the inscription is still unpublished), at a residence in Nikopolis ('Εὐτυχίτῳ ἡ τύχῃ τῆς οἰκίας, εὐτυχίτῳ καὶ ὁ ἀνανεωτῆς τοῦ οἴκου', Vokotopoulou 1973:409-10), at the complex excavated in Efstolio of Kourios in Cyprus ('...εὐτυχῶς τῷ οἴκῳ'), Pelekanidis 1974:136; Michaelidis 1992:81) and another one in Philippi (Velenis-Gounaris 1991/92:262). All these inscriptions are dated from the end of the 4th century onwards (Atzaka 1998:151. More similar examples are available for further study, see Robert 1977:11-12; Lifshitz 1977:91-3; Guarducci 1974:322-9).

Another section of the mosaic contains star-shaped patterns with rectangles that form bigger squares. Some of the squares contain the Solomon knot, smaller squares, ivy leaves, swastikas, triangles etc. The main colours of this mosaic are: white, black, red, light brown, light green and yellow. Eleftheriadou (1990:333) suggested that the mosaic has been dated to the 2nd half of the 5th century.

walls: Eleftheriadou (1990:334) reported that frescoes were found on the north wall (and fragments on the south wall) depicting colonnades with panels or tabloids in between. These panels imitate veneer and the *opus sectile* technique. This is a revival of the second Pompeian style tradition during the 5th and 6th centuries. Traces of frescoes were also found on the south wall but preservation was too slight to permit further study (Kourkoutidou-Nikolaidou 1990:323).

e. Other architectural features: None.

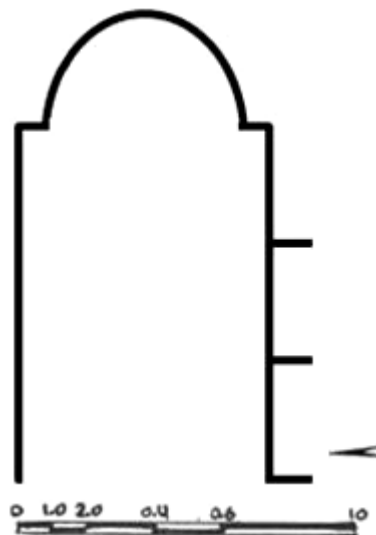


Fig.10a. House (10) Hypothetical plan based on dimensions given in excavation reports.

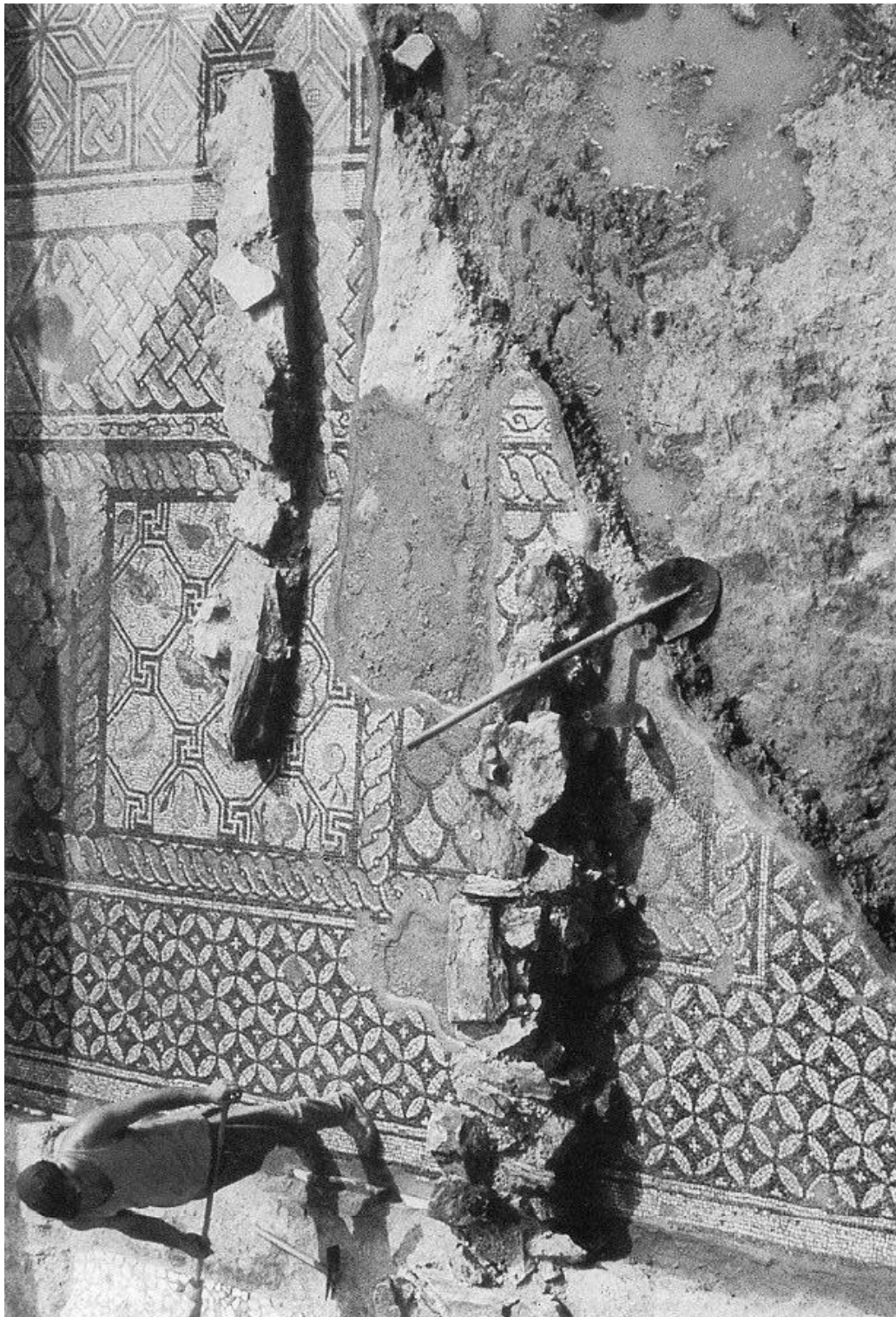


Fig.10b. House (10), mosaic in hall, details.

10.7 Associated Space: On the south side of the central room at least three small rooms were located. Another room of unknown dimensions was situated to the west.

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Abbreviations

AA	Archäologischer Anzeiger
AAA	Athens Annals of Archaeology
AE	Αρχαιολογική Εφημερίς της εν Αθήναις Αρχαιολογικής Εταιρείας
ABull	Art Bulletin
ACIAC	Actes du Xe Congrès International d'Archeologie Chrétienne
AEMΘ	Αρχαιολογικό Έργο στη Μακεδονία και Θράκη
AHB	Ancient History Bulletin
AJA	American Journal of Archaeology
AnalRom	Analecta Romana
AntTard	Antiquité Tardive
APh	L'année philologique
Αρχ.Δελτ.	Αρχαιολογικὸν δελτίον
BAR	British Archaeological Reports
BCH	Bulletin de Correspondance Hellénique
BonJahr	Bonner Jahrbücher
BSA	The Annual of the British School at Athens
ByzZ	Byzantinische Zeitschrift
CIG	Corpus Inscriptionum Graecarum
CIL	Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum
CORSI	Corsi di Cultura sull'Arte Ravennate e Bizantina
DChAE	Δελτίον της Χριστιανικής Αρχαιολογικής Εταιρείας
DOP	Dumbarton Oaks Papers
FelRav	Felix Ravenna
GRBS	Greek, Roman and Byzantine Studies
IG	Inscriptiones Graecae
IGR	Inscriptiones Graecae ad res Romanas pertinentes
JAT	Journal of Ancient Topography
JHS	Journal of Hellenic Studies
JThSt	Journal of Theological Studies
JRA	Journal of Roman Archaeology
JRS	Journal of Roman Studies
MGR	Mosaïque Gréco-Romaine
ΠΑΑ	Πρακτικά της Ακαδημίας Αθηνών
ΠΑΕ	Πρακτικά της εν Αθήναις Αρχαιολογικής Εταιρείας
PG	Patrologia Graeca
PLRE	<i>The Prosopography of the Later Roman Empire</i> , vol. 1, ed. A.H. M. Jones, J. R. Martindale, and J. Morris (Cambridge, 1971); vols. 2–3, ed. J. R. Martindale (1980–92)
RIC	Roman Imperial Coins
TAD	Türk Arkeoloji Dergisi
ZDPV	Zeitschrift des Deutschen Palästina-Vereins
ZPapEpig	Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik

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